EAST BAY EXPRESS

NO.
NO.
NO.
VOTE
VOTE VOTE

Sneak Attack

How Big Business wants to shrink the electorate.

By [illegible]

ELECTION 2012

ENDORSEMENTS PG 10
Vote for Parker-London, Walton, Hinton Hodge, Torres, Harris, and Stark. Plus, we support OUSD's Measure J and Richmond's Measure N — but not Prop 33. And, oh yeah, vote Obama!

TEN REASONS WHY YOU SHOULDN'T VOTE FOR IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE PG 11
You should read this if you're still thinking about casting your ballot for the longtime councilman.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES? PG 9
Take our quiz and find out.

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On the Cover *Illustration by Adam Rosenlund.*

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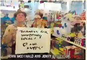
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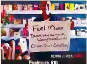
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NEWS & OPINION

EAST BAY EXPRESS
REDEFINING SEX WORK
2012

LETTERS

Posts of ... 2012 10 24

The Blind Voter

If I vote for a new tax, I need to be confident it's really needed — all these different taxes really do add up for individuals like me and for small businesses. If the zoo has reported year-end "surplus funds" in recent years, in the tune of millions of dollars, and it is not required to open its books to show us how it is spending money it already gets from the City of Oakland and other public sources, how can I tell if it really needs the money for "humane animal care"? I feel blind on this one. All I know is I've gotten my third full-color, glossy campaign mailer from the zoo, and there are so many full-color, double-sided lawn signs everywhere, and all that is not cheap. I can't help but conclude the zoo has more money in its wallet than it's leading me to believe.

Karen Aniello, Oakland

Disgusted

As a longtime resident of Oakland's "flatlands," I am disgusted with the zoo's board of directors. They say they have to tax residents in order to give the animals proper care — in other words they can't afford it now — but they can spend $800,000 on this campaign.

And they have already gotten commitments for tens of millions for their expansion. Why didn't they raise the money for animal care instead? As for the tax. Somebody explain to me why it's fair that a homeowner should pay the same tax as the owner of a multi-unit apartment or why a small business should pay the same as a multimillion-dollar corporation.

John Reimann, Oakland

... 2012 10 24

N Is Not What It Seems

In John Geluardi's one-sided account of the Richmond Measure N campaign and real to make the case for the so-called "soda tax," he misrepresented our campaign's arguments against the measure, and our position on assertions that soda is somehow especially, particularly, or uniquely responsible for the obesity crisis in this country.

To address the second matter first, Councilman Jeff Ritterman, the Measure N sponsor and the handful of advocacy groups whose water he is carrying in Richmond are unfairly demonizing the soft-drink industry in search of new revenue sources and are making emotional appeals disconnected from the facts, which are these:

Consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages has been and continues to be in decline in the United States while incidents of obesity have been on the rise. Calories from soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages account for just 7 percent of the total caloric intake of the average American. And total calories consumed are just one contributor to weight gain along with level of physical activity, genetic predisposition, and others. So, to the contrary, there is no agreement on Ritterman's justification for Measure N.

Regarding the tax itself, the case against it is this. Measure N is a new business license tax. Under Measure N, businesses in Richmond would be required to pay a fee of a penny per ounce on their inventories or sales of any and all beverages containing any amount of any type of added sugar, including fruit juice concentrate without exception.

The Measure N definition of sugar-sweetened beverage covers literally hundreds of products — most of them not soda, including flavored milks, many juices, sports drinks, sweetened teas and coffees, and numerous custom concoctions served at local restaurants, as well as certain nutritional supplements and even infant formulas containing added sugar.

Both sides agree that businesses would attempt to pass along to consumers the cost of the tax and of complying with it in the form of higher prices. Indeed, that is the whole point. These price increases would be applied either to the hundreds of products covered by the measure or more generally across entire inventories.

The obviously regressive consequence of this — in higher grocery bills for families (whether they drink soda or not) and lost revenue for local stores and restaurants when consumers go elsewhere to shop and dine — are chief reasons why so many voters, businesses, community leaders and civic organizations oppose Measure N.

Another reason is the fact that the $3 million in estimated annual city tax revenue would be placed in the city's general fund without restriction on its use, other than it is spent for a lawful municipal purpose. Mr. Geluardi falsely writes that state law prevented the authors of N from earmarking the funds for anti-obesity efforts. Councilman Ritterman chose not to write it that way because he didn't think he could get the two-thirds approval of voters that the California constitution requires of taxes imposed for particular uses or to fund particular programs.

In closing, regarding the campaign spending on the No side on which Mr. Geluardi fixates, the money is being used primarily to educate voters about what Measure N really says and its predictable consequences — as well as to clear up Councilman Ritterman's misleading rhetoric and misportrayals that occasionally appear in articles such as Mr. Geluardi's.

Chuck Finnie
Spokesman, Community Coalition Against the Beverage Tax, No on Measure N

... Election 2012 10 24

Walking for Walton

Going door-to-door for Sheryl [Walton], I have never had such an easy time getting a yes. Seems most folks have never seen this council member in the district, and unless they vote for Sheryl, they never will.

Pamela Drake, Oakland

A Wake-Up Call

I hope this article proves to be a wake-up call to the voters in District 7. Public safety should be about more than partisan finger-pointing and the same old platitudes being offered to the victims of crime. If we want a change, then we should vote for a change.

Allene Warren, Oakland

... 2012 10 17

School Closures Are Not Common Sense

Having analyzed Oakland Unified School District's finances for over two years as a member of the OUSD Audit Committee, I'm very disappointed by this one-sided reporting from Mr. Gammon. The article assumes — without any analysis or actual numbers — that school closures are common sense and paints those who oppose them as misguided, idealistic neophytes. Had Mr. Gammon done his homework like Katy Murphy of the *Oakland Tribune*, he would know that closing Lazear Elementary and reopening it as a charter actually cost the district millions of dollars. (According to a fiscal analysis by district staff, approving the charter "would cost OUSD $1.4 million." "Oakland School Closure Savings Estimate is Missing Something," 8/3). We need experienced, thoughtful school board members who will analyze the fiscal and educational rationale behind each decision, instead of accepting without question the wisdom of Superintendent Tony Smith's recommendations, as Mr. Gammon appears to do.

Daniel Morris Hutchinson, Oakland

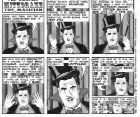
... 2012 10 17

Leave Us Alone

I entered the profession at the age of 49 after three years of unemployment, hundreds of résumés sent out, and dozens of interviews. I don't know what took me so long — this is the best job I have ever had. I don't consider myself an "escort" or "prostitute." I consider myself to be an independent businesswoman, and I act appropriately. I do research into what is desired by my target market, and track my income to see how it's affected by the weather, time of year/month/day, etc. I have a bachelor's degree in business administration and use my education more in this profession than any other I have had since graduating.

What right do the proponents of Prop 35 have to interfere with my employment and income? What right do they have to interfere with any activity enjoyed by consenting adults?

The men who chose to engage with underage children are sick. The people who coerce underage girls and boys into the business are


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
THE AMAZING MITTDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

sick. Target them — leave the rest of us alone.

Keshi Kuehler, San Pablo

Deeply Distressed

I am deeply distressed by your newspaper's most recent article concerning prostitution. If your newspaper believes in the worth of the individual — every individual — how could you print an article promoting prostitution as merely a "lifestyle," one seemingly legitimate choice among many?

This letter is not written from the perspective of a mere spectator.

I have lost friends of friends to murder in that world you attempt to present as liberating, as independence for women. Why not write about the realities of murder, rape, assault, and addiction? Why not write about the high percentage of sexual abuse survivors among the prostitutes?

During the first American Depression, my father, a young physician at the time, treated pregnant addicts and their chemically compromised babies. Some of those young women were prostitutes, possibly younger than "Jolene."

Surely all children of persons, deserve a less dangerous future. My religious beliefs as well as life experiences maintain my objection to your article as a promotion of moral unworthiness.

How horrible that our society has now descended to commodification of all it can eat, including "Jolene"?

Kari Ann Owen, Hercules

[illegible] Richmond Again, Election 2012

Shedding Light

The *Contra Costa Times* endorsed Gary Bell because he "went through the fiscal crisis of nearly a decade ago and should be well grounded to attack the next difficult challenge," rather than endorsing the progressive candidates working closely with Mayor McLaughlin, the mayor who led the city as it "climbed up from the bottom of the hole." (The *Times* doesn't even credit McLaughlin.)

Thanks for shedding some light on the real work the Richmond Progressive Alliance has done and offering some facts on Gary Bell that Chevron won't be printing on glossy flyers.

Overall, I find this to be a well-balanced piece, and am pleased to see the *Express* covering this news!

Jessica Lasprints, Berkeley

[illegible] 2012, 10/17

Two Good Choices

In general, I feel that Rob Bonta and Abel Guillen are both very capable individuals with substance who would both represent us well in the State Assembly. As far as which one is the most liberal, I would say that there are times at which certain issues in our society are not liberal, moderate, or conservative issues, but issues that, one way or the other, affect everyone. In such instances, one should not adhere to liberal or conservative concepts in order to develop solutions. Both men have strong core principles and will do what is best for the people that they represent, regardless of educational or socioeconomic status. I have followed the 18th Assembly race since the beginning, and always felt that Bonta and Guillen were the most qualified candidates, and most capable of getting things done in Sacramento.

Tyrea Jordan, Oakland

Yes Bates, Chapter [illegible] Moore and Yes on Measure [illegible] 2012, 10/17

Just a Coincidence?

On October 3 the *Express* came out in favor of Measure S, a law banning sitting on the sidewalk in Berkeley. Two weeks later it came out against Prop 35, which is marketed as making sex trafficking more difficult.

It is worth noting that poor people do not advertise in the *Express* while restaurant and store owners, who support Measure S, do. Meanwhile, sex workers, who will be harmed by Prop 35, also advertise.

Is it just coincidence that your editorial stance in both cases was that which will maximize your advertising income? I know there is more to it than that, but maybe not that much.

Chris Dorling, Richmond

The Editors Respond

We came to our endorsements conclusions independently, based on extensive research. (With regards to Measure S and Prop 35, see "Unfounded Fears," 10/3, and "Redefining Sex Work," 10/17, respectively, to see the results of that research.) The business side of our operation was not involved in the process, nor did we factor the *Express'* advertising income into our decisions.

Corrections

In our October 24 book preview "To Live and Die in Oakland," we erroneously stated that author Mariah K. Young was born in Alameda; she was in fact, born in San Leandro.

Our October 24 election story "School Closures Drive Races" erroneously stated that Oakland District 5 candidate Mike Hutchinson had worked at Lakeview Elementary. He had worked at Santa Fe Elementary. Both schools closed last year.

Our October 24 Bars, Clubs, and Coffeehouses story "From Grape to Glass" contained three errors: We erroneously said that Dr. Looney and Lisa Costa are married, we misspelled Chris Brockway's last name, and we neglected to mention that Dashe Cellars in Oakland and Edmunds St. John in Berkeley also make natural wines.

In our October 24 Bars, Clubs, and Coffeehouses story "The Brews of Our Lives," we erroneously attributed a quote from Eric Thurston to refer to the Aeropress as being "idiot-proof." He was actually referring to the Clever Dripper.

Finally, in another October 24 Bars, Clubs, and Coffeehouses story "Thick, Sweet, and Strong," we got wrong the name of Imperial Tea Court. ●

Letters Policy

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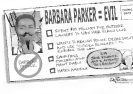
IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE, JANE BRUNNER, AND THE COPS' UNION ATTACK

They unleash a flurry of false and misleading mailers against Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan and City Attorney Barbara Parker. Plus, what's up with SEIU and Measure T?

By Robert Gammon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Oakland Councilmembers **Ignacio De La Fuente** and **Jane Brunner** and the Oakland police union have unleashed a series of vicious attack ads in their attempt to unseat Councilwoman **Rebecca Kaplan** and City Attorney **Barbara Parker**. The flurry of hit piece mailers also contain numerous false and misleading statements that grossly distort Kaplan and Parker's positions and their records in office. Kaplan told the *Express* late last week that her campaign is preparing a mailer to fight back against the false attacks, but Parker's campaign said it likely would not and plans instead to continue to point to Parker's accomplishments in office.

Positive campaign ads can be effective, but not responding to attacks could prove to be a mistake. Numerous studies have shown that negative political advertising and campaigning works. That's why politicians do it. Research also shows that attack ads are most effective when the candidate being attacked does not respond. There are several recent examples that prove this point.

In the first presidential debate, Republican **Mitt Romney** aggressively went after President **Barack Obama**, and Obama didn't respond effectively. Within days, Obama's lead in the polls evaporated. In fact, if Romney wins, the first debate will be main the reason why.

Likewise, last week the *Express* published an election story about how Assemblywoman **Mary Hayashi** might win the race for Alameda County supervisor because she's been extremely unkind of her opponents and they have not responded, nor have they mentioned publicly that she was convicted of shoplifting just last year (see "Hayashi Might Win This Thing," 10/24).

Finally, there's the 2010 example of then-Councilwoman **Jean Quan** relentlessly attacking the perceived frontrunner in the Oakland mayor's race — ex-state Senator **Don Perata**. Quan's campaign produced numerous mailers that went after Perata aggressively. His campaign didn't respond. Quan then pulled out a narrow victory.

De La Fuente and Brunner are obviously hoping for the same type of turnaround for their flagging campaigns. And the engineer of the hit pieces against Kaplan and Parker is none other than Perata's old campaign manager, **Larry Tramutola**. If anyone knows from first-hand experience the effectiveness of negative campaigning, it's Tramutola. Indeed, no political operative in the East Bay has had more success attacking opponents than he.

Typically, political campaigns go negative when they're behind. According to a poll commissioned by the Oakland Jobs and Housing Coalition, Brunner was trailing Parker 31 percent to 49 percent as of September 30. De La Fuente was losing 23 percent to 39 percent to Kaplan.

De La Fuente, Brunner, and the cops' union, which strongly supports the two candidates, responded to the bad poll numbers with a barrage of hit piece mailers against Kaplan and Parker. The numerous falsehoods include a claim by the cops' union that the Oakland City Attorney's Office under Parker's command spent $10 million on outside attorneys in 2011/2012. In truth, Parker's office spent $3.86 million on outside attorneys in 2011/2012, city records show. The mailers from the cops' union and Brunner also fail to disclose that the Oakland City Attorney's Office has been forced to hire outside attorneys to represent the city in lawsuits because Brunner and the city council have repeatedly slashed the number of city staff attorneys in so-called "cost-cutting" moves. The mailers also fail to note that much of the outside attorneys' costs stem from the city being sued for police officer misconduct.

One of Brunner's mailers also claims that she will hire police officers by saving $10 million in the City Attorney's Office, but the mailer fails to note how she would achieve such savings, and it doesn't mention that she voted for the police layoffs in 2010. **Doug Linney**, Parker's campaign manager, called the mailers "bogus."

The hit pieces from De La Fuente and the cops' union against Kaplan are also extremely misleading. They essentially blame Kaplan for the city's crime spike in the past two years, contending that she was preoccupied with other issues. The mailers fail to disclose, however, that De La Fuente was the primary backer of the police layoffs, which occurred before the crime spike and resulted in the department being understaffed. The mailers also don't mention that Kaplan voted against the police layoffs, nor do they disclose that De La Fuente and Brunner helped torpedo a plan last year by Kaplan and other councilmembers to rehire all the cops who had been laid off in 2010 who were still looking for jobs.

"The real scandal is that he cut the cops, and now he's trying to fool people into thinking that I cut the cops and I caused the crime crisis," Kaplan said, referring to De La Fuente. "This really shows a level of desperation on his point — and it comes on the heels of polls that show I have a significant lead in the polls."

It's clear that De La Fuente, Brunner, and the cops' union decided to go negative because they were behind, but why tell falsehoods about their opponents and grossly distort their records? The answer is simple: because it works. Romney and Paul Ryan are living proof of how lies and distortions can be a path to victory. And recent research shows that if campaigns tell lies often enough, people will believe them, especially in the absence of any information that counters the lies.

This is especially true for so-called low-information voters — voters who don't pay close attention to politics and don't read newspapers regularly. Oftentimes, the only political information these voters receive during the course of a campaign is political advertisements. In local elections, that means mailers. And if they get a barrage of mailers that spout falsehoods about certain candidates, then these voters are more likely to believe those lies — especially if the candidates being attacked don't respond with mailers of their own.

Kaplan said her campaign is preparing a response mailer. She's also urging more volunteers to help with phone banking and door-to-door campaigning to help offset the false and negative attacks. "A lot of people are outraged," she said. "And we're encouraging people to get involved."

Linney said, however, that Parker's campaign plans to not respond directly to the hit pieces and instead will continue to focus on the positive things she's done in office. "We could spend money trying to defend ourselves, we could spend money going after Brunner and OPOA," Linney said of the police union. "But we've decided to spend money telling voters the truth about Barbara's record ... that she's a professional."

These types of positive campaign messages are important, but candidates that solely depend on them are taking a risk. In fact, the campaigns that are usually most vulnerable to negative and false attacks are the ones that decide to take the "high road." Again, President Obama in the first debate is the perfect example of what can happen when a candidate decides to remain positive and doesn't respond to an aggressive attack.

SEIU and Measure T

It's no secret that public-employee unions have been under siege. During the past several years, they've endured widespread layoffs, pay reductions, and pension cuts. And so it's no surprise that public-worker unions typically endorse ballot measures that raise revenues for the public agencies that employ their members. It's why numerous unions throughout California are backing Proposition 30. The measure will raise revenues and result in fewer cuts to state and local government services and workers. It's also why public employees in the City of Berkeley who are members of the union SEIU 1021 wanted to endorse Measure T, a ballot initiative that promises to generate millions in new revenues for city government.

Yet for some reason, those Berkeley city employees were overruled by the union's county leadership. And so SEIU 1021 may now be one of the first unions in Northern California to oppose a ballot measure that would raise funds for the public agency that employs its members — and thus help that agency, the City of Berkeley, avoid more devastating cuts to jobs, pensions, and pay.

In interviews with the *Express*, SEIU's county leadership would not explain why the Berkeley city employees were overruled, nor would the leadership give any reason for why SEIU 1021 was opposing Measure T.

The ballot measure would allow dense developments on six underused sites in West Berkeley. The Berkeley firefighters union has endorsed the measure in part because the new developments would likely generate at least $6 million in permit fee revenues for the city alone, said **David Ross**, a retired Berkeley firefighter who is still active in the union and was part of the local Berkeley endorsement process.

Ross also noted that the housing and commercial growth generated by Measure T would create millions of dollars of new real estate transfer, property, and sales tax revenues for the city. "And Measure T is not going to cost the City of Berkeley a dime," Ross added. The measure also includes no new or increased taxes for existing city residents.

Ross confirmed that the political committee representing local Berkeley chapters of SEIU 1021 had voted to endorse Measure T before being overruled. "They all wanted it — they actually endorsed Measure T," he said.

The county leadership for SEIU 1021 instructed **Ariana Casanova**, the East Bay political coordinator for the union, to answer questions posed by this reporter on the reasons for the county's decision. Casanova said that typically the county leadership political committee adopts the recommendations made by the local union members who would be affected by the measure.

But Casanova would not comment on why the county leadership committee decided not to adopt the recommendation of Berkeley city employees of SEIU 1021, saying it was internal information. She would only say that the county political committee that makes the final decisions on what to endorse decided to oppose Measure T.

When asked why a public-employee union would oppose a ballot measure that could help a public agency avoid budget cuts, Casanova responded, "I really wish I understood it myself." And when this reporter noted that he could not remember another East Bay public-employee union having ever before decided to oppose a ballot measure that would raise revenues for a public agency that employs its members, Casanova said, "I don't recall a similar situation either."

The Alameda County Building Trades Council union also has endorsed Measure T. **Andreas Cluver**, the union's treasurer-secretary, told the *Express* that his union believes the new developments made possible by Measure T will create good union construction jobs. He also said that he received verbal commitments for project-labor agreements from several of the site developers to use union workers.

SEIU's decision on Measure T also is at the heart of a controversy in the election. Opponents of Measure T filed an ethics complaint with the city, contending that the measure's supporters had falsely claimed in mailers that SEIU 1021 had endorsed it. **Darrell de Tienne**, one of the leaders of the pro-Measure T group, said that they had thought SEIU 1021 had endorsed the measure after hearing that the Berkeley city employee committee had voted to do so. He added that once he was informed that the county union leadership had overruled the three Berkeley SEIU chapters, he removed the SEIU 1021 endorsement from the Yes on Measure T website, but that it was too late to do anything about the mailers.

It should also be noted that the anti-Measure T campaign has reportedly published false and misleading information about the measure.

WHEN ASKED WHY A PUBLIC-EMPLOYEE UNION WOULD OPPOSE A BALLOT MEASURE THAT WOULD HELP A PUBLIC AGENCY AVOID BUDGET CUTS, ARIANA CASANOVA OF SEIU 1021 RESPONDED, "I REALLY WISH I UNDERSTOOD IT MYSELF."

For example, Measure T opponents have repeatedly put out campaign materials falsely claiming that the measure would allow high-rises next to Aquatic Park. In truth, Measure T excludes Aquatic Park from development. In addition, opponents of Measure T have engaged in dirty political tricks, defacing and destroying pro-Measure T signs throughout the city.

When asked why the pro-Measure T campaign hasn't filed ethics complaints against opponents, de Tienne said his group thought about it but "decided to take the high road. We believe in what we're trying to do."

Yes on A1
for Animal Care

The East Bay Zoological Society has been illegally campaigning on city property.

So why did the county political leadership of SEIU 1021 do what it did? Both Cluver of the building trades union and Ross of the firefighters' union said they were surprised by what happened. Cluver added that he believes the decision is connected to the mayor's race. SEIU 1021 also has endorsed ultra-left Councilman **Kriss Worthington**, who opposes Measure T, over Mayor **Tom Bates**, who supports it.

Zoo Spending Tops $800,000

Finance reports released late last week revealed that the private nonprofit that runs the Oakland Zoo had cut checks for more than $800,000 to support Measure A1, making the parcel tax campaign one of the most expensive political contests in the East Bay this year. The reports showed that the East Bay Zoological Society wrote two checks in recent weeks for $200,000 and $225,000, which were in addition to the $375,000 that the nonprofit already spent on the campaign. In addition, the reports indicated that the *Zoological Society* is still operating its campaign headquarters at the zoo, which violates local and state laws because the citizens of Oakland own the property and because it's illegal to run political campaigns on public land (see "Oakland Zoo Operators Violate Election Laws," 10/24).

The huge donations to the Measure A1 campaign also come in stark contrast to assertions made by the *Zoological Society* that it's in desperate need of money and will have to eliminate programs for children if Alameda County voters reject the property tax measure. The *Express* previously reported that the Zoological Society's federal tax returns show that the nonprofit appears to have plenty of money. From 2008 through 2010, the most recent year for which data is publicly available, the Zoological Society reported to the IRS that it had net operating surpluses averaging $2.6 million per year.

As of October 24, the Zoological Society had committed to spending at least $819,620 in support of Measure A1. Attendees at a recent public forum on the measure said that *Zoological* Society Executive Director **Joel Parrott** told the audience that his organization planned to spend $1 million trying to get Measure A1 passed. ●

Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 92510.

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

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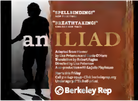

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State Assembly District 18 – Abel Guillen
State Assembly District 20 – Bill Quirk
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U.S. Congressional District 15 – Pete Stark
Berkeley Mayor – Kriss Worthington
Berkeley School Board – Judy Appel
BART Board District 3 – Rebecca Saltzman

VOTE ☑

* OCLA is the group that passed Oakland's Measure Z in 2004, which was enacted with 65.4% of the vote and made "private adult cannabis offenses" Oakland's "lowest law enforcement priority."

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LEGALIZATION NATION

AN OUTDOOR POT BONANZA

Loads of sunshine this summer produced a bumper crop of sungrown cannabis, as the federal crackdown continues to prop up prices

By David Downs

Blue Dream from the NorCal 2012 harvest.

Medical cannabis patients don't have to look much further than their local dispensary menus to notice the good news: A ton of this year's outdoor-grown crop has arrived and it looks glorious. Bay Area patients also can get killer deals for the world's best cannabis thanks to a bumper crop that was fueled by a record amount of outdoor farming and a long, hot, dry growing season.

Oakland's largest dispensary, Harborside Health Center, has been blasting its Twitter followers with ads for deals on "sungrown" strains like The White, Jack Herer, OG Kush, Tutankamun, and White Erkle for as low as $30 per eighth-ounce — or about half-off of typical premium retail prices. Cannabis Buyers Club of Berkeley has a "Full Sun" OG Kush for $25 per eighth. Berkeley Patients Group has sungrown Madness for $15 per eighth, plus deals on outdoor Blueberry Diesel, Romulan, Grapefruit Kush, and Purple Haze. And Oakland Organics' mothership Organicare held a harvest market on October 20 in Santa Rosa with 56 samples of this year's outdoor, and flights of six samples for $25. Only in California.

Planted in the spring and harvested before the first fall rains, the all-female pot bushes can grow to fifteen feet in height. The cut flowers take several weeks to dry in a process called curing before they come to market. Americans consume an estimated 2,500 to 5,000 metric tons of the federally banned plant each year, and California is a leader in domestic production of indoor and outdoor cannabis.

The high-end, state-legal club market in the Bay Area used to only sell indoor cannabis, but then dispensary customers would disappear during the annual outdoor harvest. Clubs, however, are now learning to stay relevant during harvest, finding the best outdoor around and promoting organic "sungrown" cannabis as a more healthy, Earth-friendly alternative to weed grown on the power grid.

Although the one-year-old federal crackdown on medical cannabis has hurt dispensaries, it's actually boosted profits for pot farmers. In a perverse form of Farm Aid, pot law enforcement creates a "risk premium" that props up the price of weed. Some researchers estimate that more than 90 percent of the national price of pot is thus risk premium, and it makes harvest time a huge economic event in the Northern California counties of Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity.

Government eradication programs in the Emerald Triangle have acted like price supports in the past, according to Dominic Corva, a public policy analyst from Sarah Lawrence College in New York. And renewed crackdown efforts may help slow what had been a free-fall in pot prices.

Corva, who researched Humboldt County's weed market for three years, and gave a talk at Humboldt State University on October 8, said the feds' decades-long Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) helped push up the price of pot from 1983 until the early 2000s.

But then rampant indoor and outdoor cultivation outside the Triangle diminished CAMP's effect on prices during the last decade, Corva said. Although CAMP ended this year due to state budget cuts, the yearlong federal crackdown on medical cannabis continues to make headlines — and bad headlines allow pot farmers to raise prices. "Everyone is beaming about how prices were up," wrote Humboldt resident Kym Kemp, a marijuana expert and author of blog Redheaded Blackbelt. "I'm hearing $2,200 to $2,400 [per pound] for outdoor."

At the same time, the amount of outdoor farming is "increasing every year, substantially," said Charley Custer, operator of Tea House Collective, a Humboldt group of expert organic medical marijuana gardeners and sellers. Yet even with the increase in outdoor pot production, this year's prices didn't collapse, he said.

The weather this year was phenomenal, Custer added. In stark contrast to a soggy, moldy 2011, the weather during the lengthy 2012 growing season was hot, dry, and divine.

Growers harvested plenty of bestsellers, and new, highly therapeutic strains rich in cannabidiol (CBD) are continuing to flourish in 2012. Tea House Collective offers a CBD-rich line of 2012 strains, like a mix of Harlequin and Sour Tsunami called Harle-Su, that tests at 11 percent CBD and 1 percent THC. That's roughly one hundred times more therapeutic CBD than street grass.

Harvest season is also the chance for patients to stock up on exotic "sativas" — tall, lanky plants that evolved for the tropics. They take too long to flower and grow too big for indoor farmers. "They don't make any financial sense to grow indoors, but they come to us during harvest," Harborside's operator Steve DeAngelo said.

SPARC in San Francisco is blowing through supplies of legendary, fragrant Maui Waui and Pineapple Thai, in addition to outdoor Green Dragon for a very fair $80 per quarter-ounce.

With storage vaults full for the year, growers have moved on to making hash from trimmings and throwing a harvest party or two. Billed as the world's only outdoor organic competition, the ninth annual Emerald Cup is scheduled for December 15 in Humboldt County. "For us traditional producers, it's a very satisfying, fulfilling time of year," said Custer. ●

David.Downs@gmail.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

ELECTION 2012

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES?

Take our quiz and find out.

By Ellen Cushing

We asked candidates in various East Bay races to share something voters likely don't know about them. Below, match the candidate to the unusual fact.

1. **Rob Bonta** = ____
   Representative, 18th Assembly District
2. **Darryl Moore** = ____
   Berkeley City Council (District 2)
3. **Sean Sullivan** = ____
   Oakland City Council (District 5)
4. **Barbara Parker** = ____
   Oakland City Attorney
5. **Tom Bates** = ____
   Berkeley Mayor
6. **Lynette Gibson McElhaney** = ____
   Oakland City Council (District 3)
7. **Marilyn Langlois** = ____
   Richmond City Council
8. **Richard Raya** = ____
   Oakland City Council (District 1)
9. **Abel Guillen** = ____
   Representative, 18th Assembly District
10. **Chris Peeples** = ____
    AC Transit Board At Large
11. **Jacquelyn McCormick** = ____
    Berkeley Mayor
12. **Alex Miller-Cole** = ____
    Oakland City Council (District 3)
13. **Jumoke Hinton Hodge** = ____
    Oakland School Board (District 3)
14. **Eduardo Martinez** = ____
    Richmond City Council
15. **Tom Butt** = ____
    Richmond City Council
16. **Shelley Garza** = ____
    Oakland City Council (District 5)
17. **Rebecca Kaplan** = ____
    Oakland City Council At Large
18. **Jael Myrick** = ____
    Richmond City Council
19. **Yelda Bartlett** = ____
    AC Transit Board (Ward 1)

a) writes poetry

b) six time marathon runner

c) went skydiving for her 40th birthday

d) trained Torah scholar

e) as a teenager in 4H, was a championship-winning goat farmer

f) used to be a semi-professional figure skater and was selected to compete in the Olympics

g) was as a member of Brewers, Maltsters, and Yeast Workers local 893 in college

h) grew up singing gospel

i) was a cheerleader in college

j) played for the last Cal football team to make it to the Rose Bowl

k) loves low-rider culture and used to own a sea-green '65 Impala

l) used to date a minor reality-TV star

m) was once in a Filipino jeans commercial

n) is a trained sportbike racer

o) was crowned Miss Lancaster, California as a teenager

p) graduated high school at sixteen

q) helped her father campaign for El Cerrito City Council as a teenager

r) is an amateur beekeeper

s) was elected to her position immediately after her then-husband vacated it

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

Answers:
a) Martinez
b) Sullivan
c) Garza
d) Kaplan
e) Moore
f) Miller-Cole
g) Peeples
h) Guillen
i) Parker
j) Bates
k) Raya
l) Myrick
m) Bonta
n) Bartlett
o) McCormick
p) Gibson-McElhaney
q) Langlois
r) Butt
s) Hinton Hodge

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EAST BAY EXPRESS

VOTE PARKER AND LONDON

We're also endorsing Walton, Hinton Hodge, Torres, Harris, and Stark. Plus, we support OUSD's Measure J and Richmond's Measure N — but not Prop 33. And, oh yeah, vote Obama!

The Oakland City Attorney's race is a no-brainer: **Barbara Parker** is the clear choice. Throughout her many years in office, she has proven herself to be a consummate professional, and over the past sixteen months, she has successfully depoliticized the department. We're also impressed with the city attorney's courage: Parker has been one of the few elected officials in California to publicly condemn the ridiculous and unnecessary federal crackdown on medical cannabis — plus she's doing something about it, having recently filed a lawsuit against US Attorney Melinda Haag.

We're also urging voters not to cast ballots for Jane Brunner, Parker's opponent. Brunner used to be a good councilwoman, but her decision to run a sleazy and dishonest campaign this fall has made our choice very easy. First, Brunner tried to put a term limits measure on the ballot that could have effectively allowed her to circumvent the city's campaign spending cap. Then, she leveled hypocritical charges against Parker, accusing her of taking donations from government contractors when Brunner has been doing that for years. And finally, last week Brunner decided to attack Parker with hit piece mailers that grossly distorted Parker's record in office.

In Oakland's city council District 7, East Oakland, we're endorsing challenger **Sheryl Walton**, because we think it's time for a change. Councilman Larry Reid, who has held this seat since 1996, has repeatedly run on a platform of improving public safety, but has failed to lower crime in his district even though he also was chairman of the council's Public Safety Committee for a decade. Reid also has long been an apologist for police misconduct and done virtually nothing to address the fact that the Oakland Police Department has failed to adopt federally mandated reforms during the past nine years and so is now on the brink of federal receivership.

In the Oakland school board District 1 race, North Oakland, we strongly endorse President **Jody London** for another term. London is one of the best school board members in the East Bay, and she plans to continue implementing the education reforms proposed by Superintendent Tony Smith. We also admire her courage in supporting last year's necessary school-closure plan and her opposition to renewing the license of the scandal-plagued American Indian Public Charter schools.

In school board District 3, West Oakland-downtown, we endorse incumbent **Jumoke Hinton Hodge**. We also like her main competitor Richard Fuentes, but we think Hinton Hodge deserves another four years. She's a strong backer of Smith's reforms and we were heartened last month when she decided to change her mind about the American Indian charter schools, and voted to begin the process of revoking the schools' license.

In school board District 5, Fruitvale-Glenview, we endorse **Rosie Torres**, a parent and criminal defense attorney. She's a progressive: she opposes gang injunctions and youth curfews, and is an advocate for restorative justice. She's also a Smith supporter. We also think she would be a much better school board member than her competitor Mike Hutchinson, who is a staunch opponent of school closures and has no viable plan for solving the district's structural budget problems.

In school board District 7, East Oakland, we endorse challenger **James Harris**, a former high school teacher. Harris impressed us with his knowledge of the district's most pressing issues. By contrast, incumbent Alice Spearman has increasingly opposed the superintendent's ideas, and we disagreed strongly with her votes against the school closures and in favor of American Indian Public charter schools.

We also endorse **Measure J**, the Oakland school district's $475 million bond measure. The measure not only will pay to remodel school facilities in desperate need of upgrades, but it also will finance the installation of school kitchens throughout the city. Believe it or not, most Oakland public schools don't have functioning kitchens, and so kids who don't bring a lunch to school are left to eat reheated meals covered in plastic.

In the race for Alameda County supervisor, we're making no endorsement. We had thought early on about backing appointed incumbent Richard Valle, but we're deeply disappointed by his unwillingness to respond to attacks leveled by Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi, and his failure to note publicly that Hayashi was convicted of shoplifting just last year. Valle's timid approach to the race, in our view, raises serious questions about whether he would be a strong supervisor.

In Richmond, we endorse **Measure N**, the soda tax. Many Richmond residents, particularly children, have a serious problem with obesity — much like the rest of the nation. And Measure N, a penny-per-ounce tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, will generate $2 million to $4 million a year for anti-obesity programs.

For the East Bay's 15th Congressional District, we endorse longtime incumbent **Pete Stark**. Stark has been a strong Democratic voice in Washington for decades, while his challenger Eric Swalwell has no experience in public office other than serving as a Dublin city councilman. Swalwell's pay-to-play politics are also quite troubling.

Statewide, we're strongly urging voters to reject **Proposition 33** — the latest attempt by insurance giant Mercury General to jack up rates for low-income drivers.

And finally, we strongly urge voters to reelect President **Barack Obama**. We know that Obama has been somewhat of a disappointment on progressive issues, from climate-change legislation to letting torturers off the hook. But he's also had a lot of accomplishments, including keeping us out of an economic depression, passing Obamacare, saving the auto industry, and finally getting Osama bin Laden. Moreover, Mitt Romney, who will literally say and do anything to win the election, is unfit for office. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

THE EXPRESS' ENDORSEMENTS

Oakland

City Council At Large: Rebecca Kaplan
Council District 1: 1. Richard Raya, 2. Amy Lemley, 3. Dan Kalb
Council District 3: Sean Sullivan, Alex Miller-Cole, and Lynette Gibson McElhaney
Council District 5: Mario Juarez and Shelly Garza
Council District 7: Sheryl Walton
City Attorney: Barbara Parker
School Board District 1: Jody London
School District 3: Jumoke Hinton Hodge
School District 5: Rosie Torres
School District 7: James Harris
Measure J: Yes

Berkeley

Mayor: Tom Bates
Council District 2: Darryl Moore
Council District 5: Laurie Capitelli
Measures R, S, and T: Yes
Measures U and V: No

Alameda

City Council: Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Stewart Chen, and Tony Daysog

Alameda County

Measure A1: No
Measure B1: Yes

Richmond

City Council: Tom Butt, Marilyn Langlois, and Eduardo Martinez
Measure N: Yes

Assembly

18th District: Abel Guillen

AC Transit

At Large: H E Christian "Chris" Peeples
Ward 1: Yelda Bartlett

BART

District 3: Rebecca Saltzman
District 7: Marva Alegria

State Propositions

Props 30, 34, 36, 37: Yes
Props 32, 33, 35, 38: No

Congress

15th District: Pete Stark

President

Barack Obama

ANTI-ENDORSEMENT

TEN REASONS WHY YOU SHOULDN'T VOTE FOR IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE

You should read this if you're still thinking about casting your ballot for the longtime councilman

1 **He's Dishonest.** Throughout the campaign this fall, Ignacio De La Fuente has portrayed himself as the "tough-on-crime" candidate and has blamed his opponent, Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan, for the city's crime spike. He also has attempted to trick voters into believing that she is the reason why the Oakland Police Department is understaffed. In truth, of all of Oakland's elected officials, De La Fuente is the most responsible for why the police department now has so few officers. He was the primary backer of the 2010 police layoffs while Kaplan voted against them. De La Fuente also helped kill a plan last year by Kaplan and other councilmembers to rehire all the cops who were laid off and were still looking for jobs.

2. **He Engages in Shady Dealings.** In 2006 and 2007, De La Fuente was the prime target of an FBI bribes-for-contracts probe at City Hall. At the time, local businessman Maurice Himy had been caught on an FBI wiretap saying that his close friend, De La Fuente, was going to steer a $1 million Oakland government contract to a car dealer named Donald Cooper. In exchange, Cooper was to pay Himy $65,000 and sell De La Fuente a black 1997 Porsche Turbo coupe at far below the retail price of $100,000. Ultimately, Himy went to prison as a result of the probe and De La Fuente helped Cooper get the contract, but the councilman ended up buying his coveted Porsche elsewhere.

3. **He's a Machine Politician.** For nearly two decades, De La Fuente's closest ally and friend was ex-State Senator Don Perata, who was the subject of a wide-ranging, five-year FBI investigation for public corruption. Over the years, De La Fuente had been on Perata's payroll; for example, in 2009 and 2010 Perata paid him $37,900 purportedly to drum up union support for a cancer-research ballot measure. However, it was never clear whether De La Fuente, who is strongly disliked by most public-employee unions in Oakland, ever delivered union backing for the cancer measure.

4. **He's Undemocratic.** In late 2009 and early 2010, De La Fuente attempted to block city voters from using ranked-choice voting — even though Oakland residents had overwhelmingly approved the new system several years before. De La Fuente knew that Perata would be at a disadvantage with ranked-choice voting.

5. **He's a Hypocrite.** De La Fuente has repeatedly criticized Kaplan this fall for missing some city council meetings. But in the past twenty years, no councilmember has missed more government meetings than De La Fuente. In 2006 and 2007, after De La Fuente lost the mayor's race to Ron Dellums and his son was imprisoned after admitting to raping several women, De La Fuente went missing from City Hall for several months.

6. **He's Expedient.** For much of the past decade, De La Fuente's fiercest enemy in Oakland politics was Councilwoman Desley Brooks, and the two often traded charges of corruption. But then after De La Fuente made it clear that he would challenge Mayor Jean Quan if there were a recall election, he suddenly became Brooks' most ardent backer as he sought to gather as many endorsements as possible. He rushed to Brooks' defense when she was ensnared in a scandal involving an East Oakland teen center, and he now lists her as his top supporter and prominently features her in his campaign literature.

7. **He's Responsible for Bad Deals.** Like Perata, De La Fuente was one of the primary backers of the worst financial deal in Oakland history. In 1995, the city and Alameda County floated $200 million in bonds to finance a massive remodel of the Coliseum to get the Raiders back from Los Angeles. The deal was supposed to cost taxpayers nothing, but the total cost to the city and county is already more than $340 million, and it will eventually top $600 million.

8. **He Protects His Cronies and Donors.** Over the years, De La Fuente has worked hard to land government contracts for friends and donors. One of the prime examples is ABC Security, a private security firm owned by his good friend Ana Chretien. De La Fuente voted to award contracts to Chretien even though city staff had said that other firms were more deserving. In 2001, De La Fuente also lobbied successfully to secure a contract for Chretien at the Port of Oakland, but his actions turned out to be an embarrassment for the port when federal officials threatened to shut down the Oakland Airport after 9/11 because they had found ABC Security guards asleep while guarding the airport's fuel farm.

ELECTION 2012

9. **He Tries to Bend the Rules.** De La Fuente has never liked good-government regulations. In 2010, he tried to change city campaign finance rules so that Perata could spend twice as much as allotted on the mayoral election. And this year, De La Fuente tried to convince the council to vote for a ballot measure that would have overturned ranked-choice voting this November. If the council had agreed, De La Fuente wanted his own campaign manager, Larry Tramutola, to run the campaign — a move that effectively would have allowed De La Fuente to circumvent the city's cap on candidate spending.

10. **He's Not Interested in the Job.** De La Fuente has made it abundantly clear that he does not have a strong desire to be the city's At-Large councilmember. After all, the At-Large position is virtually no different from the District 5 council seat he held for two decades. The real reason he's taking on Kaplan is that he wants to position himself for a run in 2014 against Mayor Quan. De La Fuente also hopes to regain the council presidency if he defeats Kaplan, and many City Hall insiders contend that, if he does, he will then make sure the council opposes Quan on every possible front so that she has no political successes in the next two years. ●

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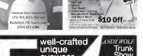
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Loni Hancock
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Nancy Skinner
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT 18
Rob Bonta
OAKLAND CITY ATTORNEY
Barbara Parker
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL, AT LARGE
Rebecca Kaplan*
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1
Dan Kalb
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 3
Sean Sullivan*
OAKLAND SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 1
Jody London
OAKLAND SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 3
Richard Fuentes*
OAKLAND SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 7
Alice Spearman
YES ON OAKLAND MEASURE J

BERKELEY MAYOR
Kriss Worthington*
BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 2
Darryl Moore*
BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 3
Max Anderson
BERKELEY RENT BOARD
Igor Tregub
BERKELEY SCHOOL BOARD
Judy Appel*
BERKELEY SCHOOL BOARD
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler
YES ON BERKELEY MEASURE M, N, O, P, Q, R
NO ON BERKELEY MEASURE S U
YES ON ALAMEDA COUNTY MEASURE A1, B1
A.C. TRANSIT AT LARGE
Chris Peeples
A.C. TRANSIT WARD 1
Yelda Bartlett
BART, DISTRICT 3
Rebecca Saltzman*
HAYWARD SCHOOL BOARD
Sara Lamnin
PERALTA TRUSTEE, AREA 2
Meredith Brown
YES ON CA. STATE PROPOSITIONS
30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40
NO ON CA. STATE PROPOSITIONS 31, 32, 33, 38

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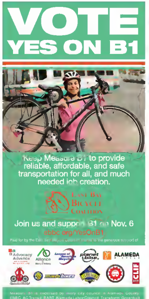
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Island residents continue to struggle to get definitive answers about safety. Ashley Bates

ECO WATCH

CONTAMINATION DESTINATION

Officials contend that Treasure Island is safe, but residents say health problems abound

By Ashley Bates

The health issues of Vicki and Trelease Miller-Jones and their two daughters are typical ones on Treasure Island. Vicki had mild asthma as a child that she said she "grew out of," but then it "came back to life" when she moved to Treasure Island in 2007. It's hard for her to breathe at times, especially at night. Every evening, she uses a nebulizer — a breathing device that she's never needed before. On Vicki's back is a leathery three-inch diameter rash that won't go away.

Vicki's partner, Trelease, has painfully raw and dry feet — a problem that is shared by at least ten neighbors, particularly those who wear sandals. Vicki and Trelease's two daughters, seven-year-old Brianna and nine-year-old Taylor, have been sent home from school with stomach troubles. Brianna has itchy rashes on her back, arms, and legs as well as dry, bald spots in her scalp where her braids have literally fallen out. Many of the neighbors' children have the same rashes and bald spots.

The Miller-Jones family used to live in Oakland near Lake Merritt, and they are contemplating moving back, but their community is on Treasure Island. "There's a part of me that hates that we moved here," Vicki said. "I feel like our lives were better in Oakland. Our health was better — that's for sure." Trelease said, "It's beautiful here, but it's deadly"; she added that she would "rather be dodging bullets in Oakland."

According to residents, health problems abound on Treasure Island. Nonetheless, officials from the Navy and the City of San Francisco continue to assure residents that they're safe. Health officials have conducted radiation surface scans and have told Treasure Island's 2,000 residents that all dangerous areas are fenced off. Residents, they say, have nothing to worry about so long as they observe the prohibition against digging on the island.

These assurances follow an *Express* investigative story in early September that revealed reports of high cancer rates among past Treasure Island residents and insider accounts of very dangerous radioactive material having been handled unsafely by the Navy and its contractors (see "Radioactive Isle," 9/5).

The assurances from public officials also belie the reality on Treasure Island, in which potential risks are plentiful, residents feel compelled to initiate their own grassroots health studies, and the city and island businesses have incentives not to make investments in shoddy infrastructure that could present additional public health hazards.

On September 11, radiation expert Robert Burns was summoned by the Treasure Island Development Authority to mollify the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' concerns. "If you're talking likelihood of a public health risk, I would say probably less than 5 percent," Burns said to audible gasps from Treasure Island residents attending the meeting. He was presumably referring only to radiation-related cancer risks in inhabited areas of the island, not to risks in fenced off, highly radioactive areas where past residents lived. (Many of these past residents attribute their cancers to radiation exposure.) Moreover, as a radiation expert, Burns could not speak to the added risks posed by at least 24 non-radioactive contaminants of concern in the air, soil, and groundwater. These include asbestos, lead, PCB, arsenic, and dioxin. Burns' probability estimate might have been higher if he had accounted for both radioactive and non-radioactive chemicals.

Officials have similarly tried to play down the possibility that the public was harmed as a result of botched cleanup practices. Amy Brownell, an environmental engineer with the San Francisco Department of Public Health, said at an October 15 hearing at San Francisco City Hall that Shaw Environmental, a Navy contractor that conducts most of the remediation on the island, had received only one notice of violation from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). In truth, the "one" violation that Shaw received referenced prior violations and detailed a litany of serious, distinct, and repeated radiation safety violations over at least a three-year period. CDPH was unable to directly monitor Shaw's work before 2010 — when the most dangerous radioactive cleanup work was happening — but a CDPH spokesperson confirmed by email that CDPH found evidence of violations in Shaw records dating back to 2009.

The text of a June 2011 email from CDPH that accompanied Shaw's "one" violation reads: "CDPH found numerous instances where Shaw failed to conduct and/or document radiation/contamination surveys. ... It is apparent from these and previous violations that there is a lack of radiological oversight, practical hands-on experience with environmental radiological projects and methods, basic radiation technology experience, and/or a failure to include the Radiation Safety Officer in production management decisions that affect the radiological protection program of the Treasure Island project." The email further noted that Shaw's failure to properly calibrate and conduct performance tests on survey meters was "so serious that [Shaw] must correct it immediately."

Residents who know that radiation is not the only concern on an island full of dilapidated infrastructure and former Cold War-era laboratories have requested more information on the potential health effects of non-radioactive chemical contaminants. However, this issue has not been on the agendas at recent public meetings and hearings.

At the same time, the oversight process on Treasure Island is muddled and reflects the interim state of affairs as the Navy prepares to transfer the island's buildings to the City of San Francisco. Many of these buildings will ultimately be torn down if a multibillion-dollar development project goes forward as planned. The Navy and its contractors are responsible for the initial remediation projects. Once the Navy's remediation is certified by either the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or CDPH, the building can be leased to the Treasure Island Development Authority, which currently is subleasing to almost one hundred commercial businesses. This cash-strapped city agency requires businesses to accept the buildings "as is," which creates incentives for the businesses not to clean up lingering contamination.

The Treasure Island Development Authority pays the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission about $5 million per year to maintain electricity, water, natural gas, and waste management systems on the island. It does not assume responsibility for capital investments in substandard pipes and sewer systems — or for the potential health risks associated with them. The same is true of the electric system: island residents have suffered at least 35 power outages in the past ten months.

Many residents are especially concerned about the water, which is tested at other sources but is not currently tested as it comes out of residents' faucets. Resident LaShawndra Breston saved a jar with a sample of brown water that came out of her sink faucet while she was washing spinach last month. Resident Saunda Conley's bathtub faucet emitted reddish brown water less than two years ago; she also has pictures of green water that came out of the same faucet this month.

Last weekend, after a water-main break on the island, emergency notices were distributed to residents warning that "consuming regular tap water at this time may cause stomach, intestinal, or other illness." Residents were told to boil their water and were provided with portable toilets.

It is impossible to know without a scientific study if the health problems on the island are connected to contamination. Even if there is a correlation, causation may be difficult to prove. Some residents, including formerly addicted and homeless individuals, came to Treasure Island with already compromised immune systems and may be predisposed to certain illnesses. Moreover, a large number of people are needed to definitively establish a disease cluster — something that's been a challenge even in famous environmental cases such as Erin Brockovich's successful fight against PG&E.

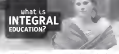
Given all the uncertainty, residents have felt compelled to conduct their own research. They recently formed the Treasure Island Health Network, which is being advised by environmental health experts in the Bay Area. The network has a website (TIHN2012.org) and is about to launch an online petition on Change.org calling for health officials to open a clinic on the island and to conduct a scientific study of health issues among past and present residents. The network has also begun distributing an anonymous survey that seeks to identify illness trends. Meanwhile, past residents from the 1970s on, tracking down their high school classmates to determine exactly what percentage have developed cancer — a challenging task that may take months or years.

At a September 28 meeting of the Treasure Island Health Network, eight of fifteen attendees reported that they suffered from dry, blotchy rashes (which may be caused by shower water), and twelve of fifteen suffered from asthma and other breathing problems. Gastrointestinal issues also seem common and at least three residents in adjacent apartment complexes recently had gall bladder removal surgeries. Dozens of residents interviewed by the *Express* indicate that they never had rashes or serious breathing troubles before moving to Treasure Island.

Residents also continue to struggle to get definitive answers about their families' short- and long-term safety. On October 15, residents staged a demonstration outside San Francisco City Hall shortly before a hearing to discuss only radiation-related hazards (not hazards posed by non-radioactive chemicals). More than a dozen demonstrators wore hand-stenciled neon yellow shirts with slogans like "No Glow" and "Contamination Destination." Drivers passing by honked their horns in support as island children chanted, "Heck no! We won't glow!" and waved signs saying, "Give us a clinic and a disease registry" and "Am I the 5% uncertainty?"

A sign carried by ten-year-old Ighanae Singleton asked, "Where is the treasure on our island?" ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com



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Tuesday, October 30
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WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY
Thursday, November 1
4:00PM

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
Thursday, November 8
5:00PM–7:00PM, room 311

TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP (MA) and TRANSFORMATIVE STUDIES (PHD)
Thursday, November 8
5:00PM–6:00PM
room 425

CREATIVE INQUIRY, INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS and WRITING AND CONSCIOUSNESS (MFA)
Saturday, November 10
5:00PM–6:00PM
room 646

INTEGRATIVE HEALTH STUDIES
Tuesday, November 13
3:00PM–4:00PM
(see website for location)

EXPRESSIVE ARTS THERAPY
Tuesday, November 13
6:30PM–8:00PM
room 616

SOMATIC PSYCHOLOGY
Wednesday, November 14
(see website for time and location)

ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE
Thursday, November 15
6:00PM, room 560

INTEGRAL COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
Thursday, November 15
6:30PM–8:30PM
room 107

EAST-WEST PSYCHOLOGY
Thursday, November 15
5:00PM–6:30PM, room 304
6:30PM–8:30PM
Special Lecture with Esperide Ananas
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Federal receivership may make it easier to fire OPD officers accused of misconduct. Stephen Loewinsohn/file photo

NEWS

POLICE UNION COULD TAKE HIT

Judge Henderson, who is overseeing Oakland police, may take away arbitration from the union if he puts the department in receivership.

By Ali Winston

The Oakland Police Officers' Association is one of the city's most influential political lobbies. At election time, the union typically outspends all other special interests in Oakland, as it backs politicians who are friendly to its cause and opposes those who are not. The 2012 election is no exception. The union is spending tens of thousands of dollars this fall in support of Councilmembers Ignacio De La Fuente and Jane Brunner who are trying to unseat Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan and City Attorney Barbara Parker, respectively. Yet despite the union's outsized influence on Oakland politics, OPOA has struggled in vain to insert itself into the police department's decade-long federal oversight process.

Beginning this summer, the police union has repeatedly tried to assert a broader role in federal court proceedings. In July, OPOA attorney Michael Rains unsuccessfully tried to win access to communications involving police officer discipline between Police Chief Howard Jordan and Robert Warshaw, the court-appointed independent monitor overseeing OPD's progress on federally mandated reforms. But on August 27, US District Judge Thelton Henderson, who presides over the federal oversight, issued a firmly written order denying the union's assertion that its lawyers could sit in on any consent decree-related hearings, and restricted OPOA's participation to matters only involving the union's contract.

Rains, whose firm represented former BART officer Johannes Mehserle and unsuccessfully appealed his involuntary manslaughter conviction for the January 1, 2009 killing of Oscar Grant all the way up to the California Supreme Court, is renowned for his doggedness. Reflecting OPOA's ongoing concern that a court-appointed receiver could annul the union's existing contract, Rains and his colleague Rockne Lucia struck a tentative deal with attorneys John Burris and Jim Chanin that would have placed the police contract and discipline for non-command staff officers outside the authority of a court-appointed federal receiver. Burris and Chanin represent the victims of the so-called Riders, a group of rogue officers accused of abusing suspects and planting evidence. The Riders scandal led to the federally mandated reforms.

Earlier this month, however, Henderson nixed the proposed deal between OPOA's attorneys and Burris and Chanin. "Plaintiffs and the OPOA may not limit by agreement the scope of any receivership the Court might impose," Henderson wrote in the October 19 order reasserting his right to make crucial decisions about OPD's future and keep all options open for the extent of a potential receiver's authority. "The Court must make that determination after carefully examining all relevant factors."

In an interview, Burris said that OPOA attorneys approached him and Chanin with their concerns about protecting the existing police contract. The two civil rights attorneys agreed to the proposed deal because they believe the contract is strong enough on discipline-related matters. "We've always felt that the issues related to non-compliance with the reforms come from the top, from the chief and the command staff's inability to get their line supervisors, the sergeants and the lieutenants, to do their jobs," said Burris. Whether or not the contract will be contested in receivership proceedings "will be a function of how broad a decision [Henderson] will make — he's been adamant that something has to be done," said Burris.

Rains and Lucia did not respond to requests for comment.

A critical aspect of OPOA's contract that could be under threat is binding arbitration. This protection allows officers — and other unionized municipal employees in Oakland — to appeal terminations to an independent labor arbitrator if they believe they have been improperly fired. The arbitrator is currently the second round of appeal that Oakland police officers go through when they face termination.

After receiving termination letters, OPD personnel first undergo an internal appeal process called a Skelly hearing. Then if they lose the Skelly hearing, the officers have the right to take their case to an independent arbitrator.

In recent years, arbitrators have overturned a number of high profile police terminations. In February 2011, Officer Hector Jimenez was rehired with back pay after an arbitrator ruled that he had been unjustly fired for fatally shooting Jody Woodfox, an unarmed man who fled a July 2008 car stop in East Oakland. Jimenez had already shot and killed Andrew Moppin-Buckskin, also unarmed, on New Year's Eve 2007. Sergeant Randy Wingate was also rehired in March 2010 after an arbitrator ruled that he had been improperly terminated for allegedly violating OPD policy during the search for the officer's lost cell phone.

In fact, the history of independent arbitrator rulings in Oakland raises serious doubts as to whether Jordan will be successful in firing two officers for their alleged misconduct during last year's Occupy Oakland demonstrations. Earlier this month, Jordan, City Administrator Deanna Santana, and Mayor Jean Quan announced that the department planned to discipline 44 officers for various misconduct charges related to Occupy Oakland, and planned to fire two of them.

The Express has learned that one of the officers who received a termination letter is Robert Roche, the cop who tossed a flash-bang grenade into a crowd of people trying to assist wounded war veteran Scott Olsen on October 25, 2011 (see, "Cop Identified in Scott Olsen Incident?" 2/22/2012). Roche and the officer facing termination will have the right to first challenge their firing in front of a Skelly hearing, before going to an arbitrator.

The two-step appeals process is lengthy — arbitration hearings can take up to two years after the initial notice of termination — and costly if the proposed termination is overturned: Jimenez was rehired with roughly $200,000 in back pay early last year. Furthermore, overturned terminations can cause serious rifts within the department. Many Oakland cops are extremely resentful about the attempted termination of Officer Bryan Franks for the September 2011 shooting of Arthur Raleigh. Earlier this year, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that city lawyers withheld a potentially exculpatory report from Franks' attorneys during termination proceedings. The police union then later started backing Councilwoman Brunner in her quest to defeat City Attorney Parker and funded a hit piece mailer against Parker that contained several false and misleading statements (see "De La Fuente, Brunner and Cops Attack," page 6). As for Franks, he's back on patrol.

Len Raphael, a candidate for city council District 1, North Oakland, has made opposition to binding arbitration a centerpiece of his campaign. In a race crowded with candidates supporting an increase in OPD's staffing levels, Raphael stands out for his consistent criticism of OPD's draw on city resources and the effect of binding arbitration on the department's ability to get rid of problem officers.

Rashidah Grinage, the executive director of PUEBLO, believes Henderson is exerting his authority after years of growing frustration with the pace of reforms. "I think the judge is looking at this more holistically than the consent decree," said Grinage. "Whatever he's going to do, he's going to make it meaningful." ●

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Adam Rosenlund

Sneak Attack

How Big Business wants to shrink the electorate.

By Zach Hagadone

If there's anyone who approximates a symbol of what's wrong with what are referred to as "restrictive" or "strict" voter ID laws, it's Viviette Applewhite. At 93 years old, Applewhite is an African American from Pennsylvania who marched with Martin Luther King Jr. and has cast her ballot in almost every election since the 1960s.

Her purse was stolen years ago and with it her Social Security card. What's more, since she was adopted as a child, the name on her birth certificate differed from that used on other official documents. Her adoption itself lacked any kind of record.

Under Pennsylvania's voter ID law, which was passed in March 2012 and has since become a lightning rod in the battle over voting rights, it appeared that Applewhite would not be able to obtain the required identification to participate at the polls. Her case, and the case of others similarly affected by the law, was taken up by the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, the Advancement Project, the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, and the D.C.-based law firm Arnold & Porter. The lawsuit, which alleged that the state's voter ID law violated Pennsylvania's constitution by denying citizens the right to vote, was denied a preliminary injunction and bounced on appeal from district court to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, which sent the challenge back to the lower court for reconsideration.

On October 2, Judge Robert Simpson granted the preliminary injunction, allowing people like Applewhite to vote in the 2012 election without photo ID and without having to cast a provisional ballot — a requirement that in the some states allows non-ID holders to vote, but then forces them to return to the polling place after the election to confirm their identity.

Barring any further litigation, Pennsylvania voters will be required to present photo ID in future elections, but this year Applewhite and others in her situation will be free to vote as they always have. In fact, as the case was being appealed in August, Applewhite received an ID using her twenty-year-old Medicare card, proof of address, and a state document affirming her name and Social Security number (according to media reports, the process also required her to take two buses to the licensing office).

That's a lot of hassle to exercise a right that Applewhite enjoyed for sixty years, but she's not alone. According to best estimates, strict voter ID laws could effectively disenfranchise millions of voters if adopted nationwide.

According to Lisa Graves, executive director of the nonprofit watchdog group Center for Media and Democracy, an organization that has made voting rights a priority issue, this newest push to limit the right to vote traces its roots to the 1990s and the enactment of the National Voter Registration Act—or "Motor Voter"—under President Bill Clinton. The measure did exactly what its name implies: made it easier for voters to register. African Americans, particularly, registered in high numbers, Graves said, prompting backlash among conservative states. "In response to that law, southern states started proposing changes to the laws to make it harder to register," Graves said. "Those bills went nowhere; they were perceived as racist ... and sort of languished for a number of years."

Then came the election of President George W. Bush, "and the right wing started pushing this theme of voter fraud," Graves continued. The Bush administration even tried to redirect the voting rights section of the civil rights division to push this idea of voter fraud, she added. "US attorneys were fired because they didn't do enough to assert nonexistent voter fraud," Graves noted.

Yet despite pressure from the new Bush administration, strict voter ID laws remained few, with only Indiana and Georgia enacting restrictive ID measures in 2005. But, Graves said, "These things were bubbling."

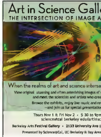
When Barack Obama won the 2008 presidential election, it was in large part due to huge voter turnout in cities and among students and African Americans. Republicans, having lost the White House, also found their party losing ground in state legislatures. According to data compiled by the News21 project at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, 62 voter ID bills have been introduced in 37 state legislatures since 2009, with the bulk of the measures introduced or adopted in 2011 and 2012. According to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University and News21, a handful of states have active, strict photo ID laws for voters and more than a dozen others are pending — either hung up in court, awaiting preclearance from the Department of Justice, or too recently enacted to be in effect.

"It's remarkable," said Jennie Bowser, Denver-based senior fellow with the National Conference of State Legislatures. "I've tracked election legislation since late 2000 and everything that happened in Florida, and I've never seen so many states take up a single issue in the absence of a federal mandate."

Graves, meanwhile, fingers the culprit. "Suddenly the Indiana law was dusted off the shelf and put out there as a national model that every state should be pushing," she said, "and ALEC is behind it."

ALEC stands for the American Legislative Exchange Council. It's a shadow lawmaking body that draws its strength from an ocean of corporate money. If the Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United* can be said to have opened the floodgates to corporate cash in American politics, then ALEC is trying to turn on the flood.

"ALEC isn't simply a think tank or a gathering of lawmakers, it is a corporate-funded operation that pushes a corporate message and a conservative message," said Graves. The Center for Media and Democracy made public in July 2011 eight hundred internal documents on its website—ALECExposed.org—proving ALEC's cloaked hand in crafting "model legislation" meant for introduction in statehouses around the country. "At its core it is a way to take some of these ideas that a think tank might fancy and operationalize them," she said. "And I use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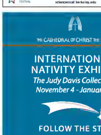
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A call to ALEC's media relations representative for this story went unanswered but the organization's ideological bent is clear enough on its website: it declares that it favors "conservative public policy solutions."

Registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, ALEC boasts around 2,000 member legislators — the vast majority being Republicans — who pay a nominal fee for membership, and upwards of 300 corporate and other private-sector members who pony up between $7,000 and $25,000 for the privilege of getting together with sympathetic lawmakers at lavish retreats.

Broken up into task forces focused on various aspects of public policy — from education to law enforcement and the environment — ALEC members, both from the public and private sectors, get together and write model bills, which are then voted on and, if ratified, carried home by ALEC legislators for introduction in their respective states. In California, Proposition 32, which would strip unions of their political power in the state, was inspired by model ALEC legislation.

This strategy has been successful. ALEC brags on its website that each year about 1,000 pieces of ALEC-written or ALEC-inspired model legislation ends up getting introduced in the states, with an average of 20 percent becoming law.

Despite this, and even though the organization has been active for nearly forty years — it was established in 1973 by arch-conservative Paul Weyrich, who also started the Heritage Foundation — ALEC has remained largely under the radar. Nonetheless, its impact on policy reads like a greatest hits compilation of the most controversial bills in recent history: from changes to US gun laws like the Florida "stand your ground" legislation made infamous by the Trayvon Martin shooting (a measure that was crafted with help from the National Rifle Association, a prominent ALEC member), to state-based efforts at overturning or circumventing the Affordable Care Act, to recent measures limiting teacher union powers and handing portions of student instruction over to for-profit education companies. Even Arizona's hotly contested immigration law — SB1070 — started as an ALEC-approved "model" bill. "There's a whole set of bills that are advancing that corporate agenda to privatize prisons, privatize education, and by privatize, I mean profitize," said Graves.

According to figures from ALEC's own IRS filings from 2007 through 2009, the organization raked in more than $21.6 million from corporations (with members including Exxon Mobile, Altria, GlaxoSmithKline, and Pfizer), foundations like none other than the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation and nonprofits including the NRA, Goldwater Institute and Family Research Council. In all, private-sector contributions account for nearly 98 percent of ALEC's funding, while the annual dues paid by member lawmakers, pegged at about $50, came to just more than $250,000, or about 1 percent of its haul during the same time period.

In exchange for these hefty (tax-deductible) donations, ALEC's private-sector members get to ensure that individual pieces of ALEC legislation mostly serve a narrow band of very specific corporate interests: education measures benefit for-profit education firms and harm unions; health care measures benefit insurance companies and drug manufacturers; tort reforms benefit corporations in general by limiting their liability to consumers.

More "insidious," as Graves put it, is ALEC's drive against voting rights. "It's deeply cynical and quite sinister — an outlandish effort by ALEC and others to make it harder for Americans to vote," she said. "At the end of the day, depending on which analysis you're looking at ... it's possible that these measures remove maybe 1 percent from the pool of votes that would be part of the election. You still have an election, but you've shaved off this percentage, you have the appearance that you have an election."

Analysis by the News21 project found that more than half of the 62 strict ID bills introduced in legislatures since 2009 were based on (or copied from) ALEC's sample voter ID bill, which was ratified by the group's membership that same year. These measures serve no particular business master; rather, they strike at the final weapon the public possesses to stem the tide of corporate-crafted legislation: access to the ballot box. "The essence of a democracy, and the essence of a representative democracy in the United States, is that we elect people to represent people," Graves said. "The question is whether our representatives are going to represent us or if they're going to represent the interests of global corporations and, in some cases with ALEC, foreign corporations."

"THERE'S A WHOLE SET OF BILLS THAT ARE ADVANCING THAT CORPORATE AGENDA TO PRIVATIZE PRISONS, PRIVATIZE EDUCATION, AND BY PRIVATIZE, I MEAN PROFITIZE," SAID GRAVES OF THE CENTER FOR MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY.

As for why big business would support limiting the franchise, the equation breaks down pretty simply: Corporations want to bring down barriers to doing business and Republicans are more than happy to oblige. If Republicans don't win elections, then corporations don't see those barriers lifted. The solution: Eliminate the competition. If voting rights get in the way, well, like the notorious mob's accountant Otto Berman once said, "Nothing personal. It's just business."

"The core interest in the suppression that's going on is partisan, it's not racial," explained Alexander Keyssar, a professor of history and social policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and a frequent speaker and writer on voting rights issues. "If African Americans voted predominately Republican, or 50/50 Republican, I don't think their neighborhoods would be targeted for suppressive efforts. I think that it's a community that now votes 95 percent Democrat, and if you want to knock out Democrat interests, that's a good place to start."

Most important, though, is that suppressing voting rights doesn't hurt the bottom line. "You can be a customer who votes or a customer who doesn't vote," Keyssar said. "It doesn't cost them [corporate interests] anything."

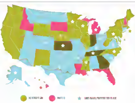
Proponents of voter ID laws say the goal is to combat in-person voter fraud — claiming to be someone you're not and entering a vote in their name. But study after study, including an exhaustive investigation by the News21 project, has found almost no evidence that in-person voter fraud occurs. Combing through 5,000 documents, the News21 project found only 10 cases of in-person voter fraud since 2000, about 1 case for every 15 million eligible voters.

What's more, requiring state or federally issued ID at the polls has been repeatedly shown by independent analyses to impose a disproportionate burden on very specific demographics: the poor, the elderly, students, and people of color.

"We've heard it time and time again, it really is a solution in search of a problem," said Stephen Spaulding, Washington DC-based staff counsel for the nonprofit good-government group Common Cause. "We do have election administration problems in the country — with machines breaking down, assuring that votes are counted accurately — and we need to focus our attention there," he said. "This threatens everyone's right to a free and fair election."

According to figures from the Brennan Center, as many as 11 percent of adult US citizens do not have any form of government-issued photo identification, accounting for more than 21 million people. Among that group, 18 percent of citizens 65 years of age or older don't have government-issued photo ID (more than 6 million seniors), and, based on 2000 US Census figures, more than 5.5 million African-American adults lack photo ID — a full 25 percent of eligible black voters. Meanwhile, US citizens, regardless of ethnicity, age, or gender, who make less than $35,000 "are more than twice as likely to lack current government-issued photo identification as those earning more than $35,000 a year," the Brennan Center reported, adding that that means at least 15 percent of voting-age Americans in the low-income bracket lack valid ID.

On top of that, the Brennan Center found in its survey that as many as 7 percent of voting-age citizens (more than 13 million adults) don't have ready access to documents proving that they're citizens, making the process of getting valid ID all the more complicated. "These ID laws, and this notion that they don't impose a cost on citizens is farcical," said Spaulding of Common Cause. "We know that in some states it costs money to get documents and get an ID. There are a number of voters who are in a catch-22: they're 90 years old, they were born at home with a midwife, and they don't have a birth certificate. There's the expense of getting those documents, there's the expense — especially in rural areas — of making the trip to get the ID. This notion that these IDs are 'free' does not pass the smell test."



Source: National Conference of State Legislatures, Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, Center for Media and Democracy, Common Cause, News 21

Proponents claim that voter ID laws will combat in-person voter fraud, yet such fraud is virtually nonexistent.

But it's on that notion that voter ID laws have been ruled constitutional. In fact, Indiana's strict voter ID law, which is seen as the test case for similar laws nationwide, was upheld by the United States Supreme Court in 2008 because it was not found to be burdensome to voters. "Clearly that's not the case," Spaulding said.

With increasing media scrutiny and public outrage, ALEC's operations — and specifically its voter ID push — may well hurt both its bottom line and the bottom lines of its corporate members. In the wake of the Trayvon Martin shooting in Florida earlier this year, nonprofit civil rights group Color of Change leveled criticism directly at ALEC for crafting the "stand your ground" law and called on its members to urge corporations to drop their support for ALEC. To date, 41 corporate ALEC members have stopped funding the group, including big names like Wal-Mart, Coca-Cola, Kraft, Amazon, Johnson & Johnson, and General Motors.

Following reports by the Center for Media and Democracy, Common Cause, *The Nation* magazine, and others highlighting ALEC's involvement with voter ID laws, the organization shut down its voting and elections task force, "and I don't think that happened by accident," said Spaulding of Common Cause. "That happened after a sustained spotlight was put on them."

Losing corporate members and disbanding task forces is one thing, but ALEC may have an even bigger problem on its hands. In April, Common Cause filed a whistleblower complaint with the IRS alleging that ALEC's lobbying activities make it ineligible for 501 (c)(3) status. Based on 4,000 pages of internal ALEC documents — some obtained through public records requests and others from inside sources — Common Cause maintains that "the evidence shows ALEC has an agenda, that they track where their model bills are introduced, that they send out 'issue alerts,' which include updates that go to state legislators where ALEC bills or ALEC-related bills are being introduced, sometimes targeting committee or task force members and including talking points, press releases," said Nick Surgey, Madison, Wisconsin-based general counsel for Common Cause.

"It's remarkable. Essentially ALEC says that they do not lobby. They are a 501 (c)(3), which means that they're a charity, and as a charity they're able to do some lobbying but it's limited and you have to disclose it," Surgey said. "We have 990s [tax returns] going back many years for ALEC and consistently they tell the IRS that nothing they do is lobbying. They put a zero or they don't check the box that says, 'Do you do any lobbying, yes or no?' ... They're clearly trying to influence legislation."

If the IRS agrees, and ALEC is found to be in breach of the rules, the organization would have to reincorporate as a 501 (c)(4) and fully report its activities as lobbying. What's more, Surgey said there's the possibility that if ALEC is found to have improperly reported to the IRS, tax revenue lost when donations were recorded as tax deductible may be recouped from individual donors — an action that Common Cause included in its complaint.

"It's unlikely that the IRS would go after individual donors, but there's nothing statutorily to say they cannot do that," Surgey said. "They'd have to make a judgment that donors should have been aware. ... Most of the responsibility is on ALEC, but we also believe the corporations should have been aware that ALEC was doing what they were doing, and that's lobbying. ... We believe that they have some liability."

The whistleblower complaint is still working its way through the system, and Surgey said that these kinds of cases tend to take "quite awhile." Still, he and others, like Graves at the Center for Media and Democracy, maintain that keeping pressure on ALEC is important for more reasons than just recouping tax revenue.

"It's also about making sure that these really important fundamental debates happen in the open," Surgey said. "We got into looking at ALEC out of a concern that corporations have too powerful a role in our political system; they have a disproportionate power in the legislatures for a variety of reasons, and ALEC really seems to be the epitome of that." ●

This report was produced by the Association of Alternative Newsmedia, of which the Express *is a longtime member.*

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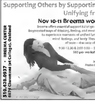

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ARTS & CULTURE

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

A Second Life for Food

Interface Gallery examines the link between food waste and hunger by letting you get your hands dirty

Suzanne L'Heureux, owner and curator of Interface Gallery in Temescal, got the idea for her new show ironically while in conversation at a silent retreat last year. Her talking partner, Oakland social entrepreneur Dana Frasz, was discussing her food philosophy — namely, how she puts food on the table for her family largely through dumpster-diving. She also told L'Heureux about Food Shift, an organization she'd recently launched that's devoted to reducing hunger by diverting usable food from the waste stream. "I was floored," said L'Heureux. "I immediately thought, 'This is a great theme for a show.'"

Uneaten apples become art.

The eponymous exhibit, "Food Shift," opens with an event on Friday, November 2 (6-9 p.m., free) that will feature an installation on industrial farming, assorted sculptures representing cast-off food, a video on farming issues in Fresno's Westlands Water District, and food-dyed textiles. But the month-long exhibit extends well beyond opening night. L'Heureux has organized a series of six "extracurricular" events throughout November — including a film screening, a preserves-making lesson, and a fabric-dyeing workshop — in hopes of offering new ways of understanding the complex relationship between food waste and hunger. "People in the Bay are already familiar with a lot of these issues surrounding food," said L'Heureux. "I didn't want the event to be preaching to the choir, or to just be a long list of dos and don'ts. Having people participate in the exhibit in a hands-on way lets them connect more deeply with the issues."

Many of the events relate to something that L'Heureux and Frasz feel particularly passionate about: a "second life" for food. During the "Dinner to Dye For" event on Sunday, November 4 (4 p.m., $60), guests will enjoy a delicious dinner while learning from Sasha Duerr of the Permaculture Institute how to dye fabrics using food scraps from their meal, including onion skins, avocado pits, and carrot tops. On Wednesday, November 7 (6 p.m., $5-10), Interface will host a screening of dumpster-diving doc *Dive! Living Off America's Waste*, followed by a discussion with Frasz. And on Sunday, November 11 (1 p.m., $50), participants will learn how to make "hyper-local" preserves entirely from neighborhood-foraged fruit, courtesy of Lenna Lopez of Oakland Dry Goods. On top of picking up the ins and outs of preserve-making, guests will receive a map to local fruit foraging sites.

"Having interactive opportunities creates a form of connection for people," said L'Heureux, who organized the exhibit's participatory events as an experiment in audience engagement. "Art like this can be really powerful as a point of entry. I want people to take home the idea that a just and sustainable food system is possible." Through December 2. Most events at Interface Gallery (486 49th St., Oakland); see website for full schedule. InterfaceArtGallery.com

— *Azeen Ghorayshi*

ATTRACTIONS

"Enchanted Grove" Fairy House Walk Walk through a magical village of [illegible] woodland fairy stories and lead children to the Fairy Queen and a natural treasure. [illegible] Also includes puppet shows, storytelling for all ages, music and crafts. Food available for purchase. Sat., Nov. 3, 4-7:30 p.m., [illegible], 1808 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-548-2153.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, & FIESTAS

Día de los Muertos Celebration in the Gourmet Ghetto Celebrating those who have passed on: community members may bring photos or stories of their loved ones, candles, breads, or flowers to add to the altar. There will be food, [illegible], wine and beer garden, face painting, and art projects. Costumes encouraged. Fri., Nov. 2, 5-9 p.m., free. Shattuck Ave. (between Rose and Vine streets), Berkeley. NorthShattuck.org.

Midnight in Mumbai: Celebrating Our Stars Presented by [illegible] Foundation. The celebration will highlight their programs and accomplishments with authentic food, music, dancing and stories from their global community. Sat., Nov. 3, 6-11 p.m., $75. International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. 510-642-9490.

North Oakland Day of the Dead Processions starting from the two triangle parks (Dover Park & MacGregor) will converge @ Dover Park for altar building and a community-style candlelight picnic. Thu., Nov. 1, 5 p.m., free. Dover St. Park, 5701 Dover St., Oakland.

Teen Arts Advocacy Conference Join teen arts advocates (grades 9-12) from the Bay Area for the CLASH Conference — a day of programming and empowerment made [illegible]. Sun., Nov. 4, 12-4:15 p.m., free. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949. BerkeleyRep.org.

HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SEXUALITY

Nutrition, Mindfulness, and Sexuality Nutritional consultant and Nyingma Institute instructor Donna Morton will discuss how certain foods support a calm mind and [illegible] body, while others can lead to physical and emotional imbalances. Sun., Nov. 4, 6-7 p.m., free. Nyingma Institute, 1815 Highland Pl., Berkeley. 510-843-6812. Nyingma.org.

The Yoga of Food Discussing the emotional and practical challenges that [illegible] the way to achieving ultimate health. Participants will create a three-week nutrition action plan based on individual needs and [illegible]. Sat., Nov. 3, 1-3 p.m., $15. Square One Yoga Collective, 1547 60th St., Emeryville. 510-847-5700. SquareOneYoga.com.

KIDS

Deborah Underwood The storyteller reads from her new kids book, *The Christmas Quiet Book*. Sat., Nov. 3, 2 p.m., free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

Earthsongsters A performance that teaches kids & more about our planet. Sat., Nov. 3, 10:30 a.m., $5 kids, $6 adults. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

East Bay Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair Featuring handmade jewelry, paintings, sculptures, fabric arts, photography, Judaica gifts, stationery, toys, Hanukkah items, greeting cards and menorahs made by [illegible] from 33 Bay Area synagogues. Kosher food available for purchase. Sun., Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Temple Sinai

PICKS

Art in Science Gallery Gala

Why [illegible] scientists don't care about art? In "The Intersection of Image and Research," the Berkeley Arts Festival Gallery (2133 University Ave., Berkeley) brings together artists and scientists to discuss the symbiotic relationship between the two seemingly disparate fields. As part of the Bay Area Science Festival, the two-day event on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 1-2, will feature photography, video, painting, sculpture, lectures, and demonstrations addressing topics like the role of artists in exoplanet exploration and the use of 3-D modeling to recreate the tombs of the Han Dynasty. 5:30-9 p.m., free. BayAreaSci.org. *— Azeen Ghorayshi*

Strictly Speaking: Dan Savage

If there's one thing that straight people could take from gay culture, that would improve heterosexual sex lives, it's the four magic words of every same-sex encounter: What. Are. You. Into., said sex columnist and podcast host Dan Savage at Rhodes College earlier this year. As part of the Cal Performances "Strictly Speaking" series, the famously frank creator of the "It Gets Better" campaign and *Savage Love* columnist stops by Zellerbach Hall (Bancroft Way and Dana St., Berkeley) on Saturday, Nov. 3, to answer burning questions about love, life, and sex. Obviously, due to subject matter and language, the event is for mature audiences only. 8 p.m., $20-42. 510-642-9988 or CalPerformances.org. *— A.G.*

Wilbert Sears Hall, 2873 Webster St., Oakland. 510-444-9176.

Kuumba Day at Habitot Children's Museum Children [illegible] the [illegible] by [illegible] for their favorite people [illegible]. Featuring [illegible] books [illegible]. Tue., Nov. 6, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., $9. Habitot Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-647-1111. Habitot.org.

It's Raining, It's Pouring! Kids learn how to be meteorologists [illegible] building weather book, collecting information about the [illegible] and learning how to identify types of precipitation. Tue.-Sun., 10 a.m. & 3 p.m., $12. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

Jennifer L. Holm Jennifer Holm reads from *Babymouse for President*, the newest book in the series. Sun., Nov. 4, 11 a.m., free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland. 510-339-8210. GoodPlaceBooks.com.

The Last Reef 3-D A thrilling underwater journey that shows you the beauty and mysteries of a reef ecosystem. Through Jan. 6, 2013. $4 after admission. Lawrence Hall of Science, 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-642-5132. LawrenceHallofScience.org.

[illegible] The author of *Surviving High School* joins forces with authors [illegible] in *Dear Teen Me: Authors Write Letters to Their Teen Selves* for a heartfelt look at the trials and tribulations of high school. Sat., Nov. 3, 4 p.m., free. Books Inc. [illegible], 1344 Park St., [illegible]. 510-522-2226. Booksinc.net/[illegible].

Tell Tales or *The Fish in My Coat* Family-friendly variety show featuring circus skills, physical comedy, self-mocking, music, and more, performed by the [illegible] Company. Sun., Nov. 4, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m., $10-$20. [illegible] Auditorium, UC Berkeley, Berkeley. 510-642-4290.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

International [illegible] Exhibit Features selected [illegible] from the collection of [illegible]. Nov. 4-Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. The Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland. 510-267-8300. CTLCathedral.org.

Ten Paths to Awakening Speakers from the [illegible] Museum, and Jewish [illegible] from Oakland, to discuss "finding the [illegible] to live with integrity and compassion in a world of difficulty and uncertainty." Sat., Nov. 3, 7-10 p.m., $12-18. Kehilla Community Synagogue, 1300 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-547-3434. KehillaSynagogue.org.

SALES, SWAPS, PROMOTIONS, & FUNDRAISERS

54th Annual Bay Area Bead Extravaganza A 140-booth marketplace featuring local artisans working in glass, metal and recycled materials, as well as specialty, antique, and ethnic beads. Includes free demonstrations and more than forty jewelry-making classes. Sat., Nov. 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $7; $5 with online coupon. Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway, Oakland. 510-451-4000.

Isabel's Collection Launch Party A party for local handmade brand Isabel, which just launched their new website and collection. Featuring coffee, [illegible], treats, and drinks. Sat., Nov. 3, 5-9 p.m., free. Pretty Penny, 5488 College Ave., Oakland. 510-594-9100. PrettyPennyClothing.com.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Election Night Event Watch the election during this benefit for La Peña Cultural Center. Tue., Nov. 6, 5 p.m., donations requested. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

The Hookup Lounge Social event for [illegible] looking to "make a love connection." First Thursday of every month, 8-10 p.m., free. Feelmore510, 1703 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-891-0199. Feelmore510.com.

Music Trivia Night Bay Area Girls Rock Camp presents a monthly all-ages music trivia night, whereby teams of 3-6 test their knowledge of song clips, videos, record art, and more. Ten percent of the cafe's sales during event benefit the camp. First Friday of every month, 7 p.m., donations accepted. 510-267-7868, BayAreaGirlsRockCamp.org. Actual Cafe, 6334 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-653-0588. ActualCafe.com.

Paranormal Investigation: Pardee Home Museum Oakland Experienced paranormal investigators will take teams through the haunted Pardee Home Museum. Attend a seance in the cupola conducted by a psychic medium and/or a [illegible] session in one of the Museum's [illegible]. Food and drink included. Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m.-midnight, $60. Pardee Home Museum, 672 11th St., Oakland. 510-444-2187. [illegible] pardeehome.org, www.pardeehome.org.

Pizza the Pizza A monthly [illegible] with [illegible], and record [illegible]. [illegible] Sunday of every month, free. The Rock Steady, [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 888-477-[illegible]. OaklandSteady.com.

Presidential Election Night Party on the Bay An election night party on Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidential yacht, "The Floating White House." Includes wine and more. Tue., Nov. 6, 5-8 p.m., $40. USS Potomac, 540 Water St., Oakland. 510-627-1215. USSPotomac.org.

THREADS A clothing swap for men and women with ping-pong. Accessories and [illegible] (with vegan options), [illegible] music, and more. First Saturday of every month, 2 p.m., free. [illegible] Center, [illegible], 411 28th St., Oakland. 415-826-1135. [illegible].com.

Transforming Community Bash An evening of food, art, music, and recognition [illegible] who give back more to the community. Sat., Nov. 3, 6-9 p.m., $30. Oakland [illegible] Center, [illegible] Broadway, Oakland.

More Listings Online
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or m.EastBayExpress.com

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

Dart Tournament First Thursday of every month, 7-9:30 p.m. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. StarryPloughPub.com.

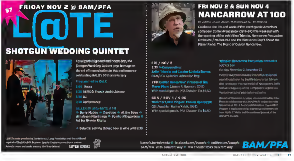
Fall Bird Walk Annual [illegible] migrant and vagrant birds in the Garden's many bird-friendly microhabitats with birding expert Phila Rogers and [illegible]. [illegible] registration required. Sat., Nov. 3, 9-10:30 a.m., $20, $17 for members. University of California Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-643-2755. BotanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu.

[illegible] Hike A moderately difficult 3.5-mile group hike with a long, gradual climb. Led by [illegible]. Fri., Nov. 2, [illegible] p.m., free. Anthony Chabot Regional Park, 9999 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley. 888-327-2757. EBParks.org/Parks/Anthony_Chabot.

The Mystery of Bird Song California Naturalist and author David Lukas will share his insights into the magical world of bird song [illegible]. Wed., Nov. 7, 7 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Dimond Branch, 3565 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland. 510-482-7844. OaklandLibrary.org.

Pickleball A fast paced game combining elements of tennis, ping pong, and volleyball. For all ages and experience levels. Played on the tennis courts. Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., $3-$5; $2 paddle rental. 510-508-7218. AlbanyCa.org. Ocean View Park, 900 Buchanan St., Albany.

[illegible] Select among [illegible] of succulents and learn how to plant and care for your wreaths. All materials provided. Advance registration required. Wed., Nov. 7, 6-8 p.m., $65, $50 for members. University of California Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-643-2755. BotanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu.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EAST BAY EXPRESS

[illegible]

Celebrate the life and work of the avant-garde American composer Conlon Nancarrow (1912–97) this weekend with the opening of the exhibition Trimpin: Nancarrow Percussion Orchestra / MATRIX 244 and the film series Don't Shoot the Player Piano: The Music of Conlon Nancarrow.

FRI / NOV 2
5:30 In Conversation:
Artist Trimpin and Curator Lucinda Barnes
BAM/PFA Galleries, Admission free

7 PM Conlon Nancarrow: Virtuoso of the Player Piano (James R. Greeson, 2012)
With special guests. PFA Theater Tix $9.50

SUN / NOV 4 / 4:00
Music for 1,000 Fingers: Conlon Nancarrow (Uli Aumüller, Hanne Kaisik, 1993)
With special guests. PFA Theater Tix $9.50

Trimpin: Nancarrow Percussion Orchestra
MATRIX 244
On view November 2–December 23

MATRIX 244 presents a new interactive sculptural sound installation by Seattle-based artist Trimpin that celebrates the centennial of Nancarrow's birth with a reimagining of the composer's incomplete vacuum-actuated percussion orchestra.

[illegible]

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First Friday

ART OPENINGS & EVENTS

See the Art Gallery listings in the Express for more information on East Bay art showings

Spend an evening supporting local arts!

Some venues offering art openings and/or special events on First Friday November 2nd.

ALAMEDA

Frank Bette Center
1601 Paru St

Redux Studio & Galleries
2315 Lincoln Ave

ALBANY

Gathering Tribes
1417 Solano Ave.

BERKELEY

Berkeley Art Museum
2626 Bancroft Way

Berkeley Potters Guild
731 Jones St

Kala Gallery
2990 San Pablo Ave.

Urbanity
1887 Solano Ave

OAKLAND

4707 Gallery
4707 Telegraph

57th Street Gallery
5701 Telegraph Ave

Anna Edwards Gallery
237 East 14th St

Actual Café
6334 San Pablo Ave

Bellevue Club
525 Bellevue Ave

Bork Zoo
14 Glen Ave.

Café Van Kleef
1621 Telegraph Ave

The Compound Gallery
1167 65th St

The Crucible & Cathedral Gallery
1415 Broadway

Forthrite Gallery
5857 San Pablo Ave

Gamma Space
6608 San Pablo Ave

Hatch
492 23rd St.

Johansson Projects
2300 Telegraph Ave

Joyce Gordon Gallery
406 14th St

Kuhl Frames + Art
412 22nd St.

The Layover
1517 Franklin St.

Linville
3980 Piedmont Ave

IOAKal Gallery
1423 Broadway Ave

LoBot Gallery
1800 Campbell St.

Lukas Taproom & Lounge
2221 Broadway

Macarthur Barther
4130 MLK Way

Paradiso Lounge
2272 Telegraph Ave.

RAW Gallery
1951 Telegraph Ave.

Red Door Gallery
414 24th St.

Rock Paper Scissors Collective
2278 Telegraph Ave.

Renz Café
1418 Park Blvd

Royal Nonesuch Gallery
4231 Telegraph

Smokey & Tangle
4799 Telegraph Ave.

Somar Bar and Lounge
1727 Telegraph Ave

Spice Monkey Café and Restaurant
1624 Webster St.

Stacks +Stones
415 Broadway

Studio One Art Center
365 45th St.

The Sweet(t)Art

Drawing Gallery
4882 San Pablo Ave.

Tech Liminal
268 14th St

Temescal Arts Center
511 48th St.

Thelma Harris Art Gallery
5940 College Ave.

OAKLAND ART MURMUR

Awaken Café
1424 Broadway

Ba'll Ono Gallery & Shop
1427 Broadway

Chandra Cerrito Gallery
480 23rd St

Classic Cars West
411 26th St.

Creative Growth
355 24th St

Crown Nine Jewelers and Makers
481A 9th St.

Era Art Bar
19 Grand Ave.

Farley's East
33 Grand Avenue

FM Gallery
483 25th St

Great Wall of Oakland
Back wall on Grand Ave. between Broadway and Valley

The Hive
301 Jefferson St.

Krowswork Gallery
480 23rd St

Manna Gallery
473 25th Street

Marion & Rose's Workshop
461 9th St.

Mercury 20
475 25th St.

The Moon
447 25th St.

Oaklandish
1444 Broadway

Oakopolis
447 25th St.

Photo
473 25th St.

ProArts
150 Frank H Ogawa Plaza

Rea Ipsa
455 17th St., 2nd Floor

Rouced Ceramic Gallery
473 25th Street

Shadravarta Art Gallery
2435 Telegraph Ave

SLATE Contemporary
473 25th St.

Studio Quercus
385 26th St.

Swarm Studios & Gallery
560 2nd St

Telegraph
2318 Telegraph Ave

Urban Legend Cellars
621 4th St

Vessel Gallery
471 25th St

The Well Gallery
473 25th St.

Warehouse 416
416 26th St

SAN LEANDRO

UrbanSpace Gallery
811 Washington St

If you are an East Bay venue offering a First Friday evening art event, please email your information to Promotions@EastBayExpress.com to be included in the December directory.

EAST BAY EXPRESS

TRUMER PILS

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Splatters and Pools

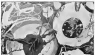
Victor Cohen Stuart's latest paintings, mutating abstract expressionism, take on a decidedly musical quality.

Comparing visual art to music is bound to get a bit awkward. After all, one is immaterial, existing in the flow of time; the other is crucially material, frozen in space. Whatever your talent for metaphor, these fundamental differences are going to crop up.

Yet some art pushes the process of its making to the fore in such a way that it does seem to exist in time, demanding interpretation through the language of beat, rhythm, melody. Victor Cohen Stuart's latest work, now at Slate Contemporary, is a vivid example.

Since arriving in Berkeley from the Netherlands in the 1960s, Stuart has careered from abstract sculpture to figurative painting and finally to abstract painting — drips and splatters reminiscent of Jackson Pollock's or Mark Tobey's midcentury modernism.

Recently, the artist introduced a significant new component to his process: pooling latex enamel paint in puddles ranging in size from egg yolk and frying pan, allowing them to dry and then adding additional pools on top. Lightly flicked drippings of paint seem to flow in stately canals through and around these globular accumulations, which, even without knowledge of how much waiting time their formation requires, appear sluggish by comparison.


Victor Cohen Stuart's *Odyssey*

Charged by this perceived interplay of varying tempos, the canvases come to feel positively rhythmic, melodic — it's hard to describe it any other way. Even the color palette, a brilliant array of purples, blues, yellows, and pinks, seems to introduce timbre to the compositions.

But, as prophesied, at a certain point the music comparisons must come to a screeching halt. Stuart's latest series of paintings is his most sculptural to date: these are emphatically material objects in space.

Stuart has been using thick canvases for some time, allowing his splatters to trickle down their sides to create wrap-around paintings. He also sometimes throws paint while the canvas is vertical, causing drips to harden, tooth-like, along the canvas' bottom edge. However, whereas previous work, some of which is also included in the present exhibition, contains gradations that can give the illusion of forest-like depth, the 2012 series is decidedly literal. Try for a representational interpretation of the paint pools and you would be unlikely to come up with anything except perhaps psychedelic fried eggs or melting LPs. Adding discernible thickness to the canvases, the pools give the paintings a topographic texture and bring them decidedly into the real space of the viewer.

If Stuart's last exhibition at Slate Contemporary in 2010 raised questions about how to relate the artist to abstract expressionism, this new set yields a clear answer: He's not interested. At once graphic, sculptural, and, yes, musical, these new works would not be welcomed at any modernist party — they're too interesting for that.

Victor Cohen Stuart: Painting runs through November 17 at Slate Contemporary (473 25th St., Oakland). 510-652-4085 or SlateContemporary.com

— *Alex Bigman*

ART GALLERIES

Addison/[illegible] Gallery: A solo exhibit featuring mixed media works mapping the artist's physical [illegible] and psychological and emotional spaces. Through Jan. 31, 2018. 2180 Milvia St., Berkeley. [illegible]

The Alley at Temescal Square: First Friday @ Temescal Gallery With monthly art shows, artisanal food, live local artists, and a showcase of independently owned shops. First Friday of every month, 7-10 p.m. 470-482 49th St., Oakland.

Berkeley Art Center: Local Treasures: Bay Area Ceramics A retrospective of work by influential Bay Area ceramicists: Berkeley, Clayton Bailey, Viola Frey, Ted Fullwood, Jun Kaneko, Mary Law, Annabeth Rosen, Nancy Selvin, Richard Shaw, Sandy Simon, John Toki, and Wanxin Zhang. Through Nov. 19. $3 suggested donation. 1275 Walnut St. in Live Oak Park, Berkeley. 510-644-6893, BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

BAM/PFA: Trimpin: Nancarrow Pedrosario Orchestra / MATRIX 266 A new sculptural sound installation by the Seattle-based artist Trimpin. The work is [illegible] in [illegible] of the [illegible] anniversary of the [illegible] avant-garde [illegible] composer Conlon Nancarrow. Starting Nov. 2. Wednesdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Nov. 25. Free with admission. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808, BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

Berkeley Arts Festival: Art in Science Gallery [illegible] View original images of [illegible] investigation and meet the scientists and artists who created them. Thu., Nov. 2, 7-8:30 p.m.; Fri., Nov. 3, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. 2133 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Bullseye Gallery: This Fragile Skin Explorations of the human form in kiln-formed glass. Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Jan. 12. Free. 4514 Hollis St., Emeryville. 510-595-1318, BullseyeGlass.com.

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary: [illegible] Featuring oil paintings by Holly Williams. Through Nov. 29. Free. **[illegible]** With large-scale pastel drawings by [illegible] Anderson Kim. Through Nov. 29. Free. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-260-7494, ChandraCerrito.com.

CG Gallery: Transformation Starting Nov. 3. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wednesdays-Fridays, 2-6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 1. 4125 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-759-2595, [illegible]Gallery.org.

The Compound Gallery & Studios: Barbara [illegible] Solo exhibition. Closing tea and artist talk on Sunday, Nov. 4, 3-6 p.m. Through Nov. 5. 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-601-1707, TheCompoundGallery.com.

[illegible] Black Museum Gallery: First Friday Series Featuring work by artists [illegible] co-curators Manuel [illegible], Gil [illegible] Shaw and Louis [illegible]. First Friday of every month, 6 p.m. 1818 Pine St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-4481.

Creative Growth Art Center: [illegible] Featuring hand work by Tony Pedemonte and Carlos Perez. Through Nov. 9. Free. 355 24th St., Oakland. 510-836-2340, CreativeGrowth.org.

David Brower Center: [illegible] With illustrations, sketches, and murals by Laura Cunningham, exploring what California was like centuries ago. Through Jan. 30, 2018. 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900, BrowerCenter.org.

Expressions Gallery: [illegible] Show A collaborative group show featuring San Francisco-based women artists including Olga Frame, Audrey [illegible], Loren Connelly, Mark Greyland, [illegible], and many more. Through Nov. 8. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930, ExpressionsGallery.org.

Gray Loft Gallery: From One Thing To Another: The Art of Recycle With assemblage, collage, sculpture, furniture, jewelry, handbags and stationery [illegible] from objects not intended as art, by [illegible], Lori White, Carl [illegible], Shelley Gardner, and more. Through Nov. 9. 2880 Ford St., Oakland. 510-593-3445.

Institute of Mosaic Art: Off The Wall With mosaics by Wilma Wyss. Through Nov. 4. 3001 Chapman St., Oakland. 510-437-9922, InstituteMosaicArt.com.

[illegible] Gallery: Food Shift Works by Sasha Duerr, Permacouture Institute, Cynthia Hooper, Kathleen [illegible], Chris [illegible], and Ariel Van [illegible] [illegible] the social, environmental and human impacts of food waste and food systems. Opening reception on Friday, Nov. 3, 6-9 p.m. Nov. 3-Dec. 9. **Cynthia Hooper: [illegible] Water, [illegible] and Its Politics** Artist Cynthia Hooper documents her latest video, "[illegible]," which is featured in the Food Shift exhibition. Sat., Nov. 4, 1-3 p.m. Free. **[illegible]: Living off America's [illegible]** Screening of the film, followed by a discussion with Dana Frasz, director of Food Shift, an organization working to build a more just and sustainable food system by connecting the dots between food waste and hunger. Wed., Nov. 8, 6 p.m. Free. 480 49th St., Oakland. [illegible]Gallery.com.

[illegible] Berkeley: Decryptions With work by [illegible], Kari Li, and [illegible] Shaw. Opening reception Nov. 2, 6-8 p.m. Through Nov. 22. Free. 2308 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-8140. [illegible]Projects.com.

Kala Art Institute Gallery: [illegible] Featuring work in a wide array of media and processes. Through Nov. 24. 2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-7000, Kala.org.

[illegible]: The [illegible] Sculpture, photography, [illegible] video, and drawing that together [illegible] the unidentified hybridity of the California landscape. Opening reception for the artist Friday, [illegible], 6-8 p.m. Fridays, 3-6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 8. Free. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-220-7835, [illegible].

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Structure Painted wood sculpture by [illegible]. Through Nov. 17. Free. **Spirit Series** Oil paintings by Elaine [illegible]. Through Nov. 17. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-288-2330, [illegible]Gallery.com.

Mercury 20 Gallery: PK [illegible]: Evidence of Things Unseen PK [illegible] uses found plant materials, and discarded broken objects to explore the nature of mind and memory. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 1. Free. **Kerry Kinder Moor: Into the Interlude** Kerry Kinder Moor sets a stage with sculpture and wall pieces, using mostly red to evoke passion, drama, humor and [illegible]. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 1. Free. **Cartographies** The group show features new work by three artists who use the map as a jumping-off point for inquiry. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Nov. 1. 475 25th St., Oakland. 510-484-2785, Mercury20.com.

NIAD Art Center: Trading Places A group show [illegible] works by NIAD artists, staff and artists, who selected each other's artwork for display in the exhibit. Through Nov. 2. 551 23rd St., Richmond. 510-620-0290, NIADArt.org.

[illegible]: [illegible] Gallery Installation Through Nov. 17. Free. 441 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-0820, [illegible].org.

PHOTO: Sacred Stone Photography of the Mendocino woodlands by Michael Stone. Through Nov. 10. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]-0440, PHOTOGallery.[illegible].

Pro Arts Gallery: Oakland Art Night Pro Arts extends its gallery hours in conjunction with Oakland's Art Night. First Friday of every month, 6-9 p.m. ProArtsGallery.org/[illegible]. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361, ProArtsGallery.org.

Royal NoneSuch Gallery: State of Affairs A [illegible] art show featuring work by [illegible], [illegible], Lucas de [illegible], and many more, curated by David [illegible]. Through Nov. 8. Free. 4231 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 415-[illegible]-3040, RoyalNonesuchGallery.com.

SLATE contemporary: Victor Cohen Stuart Victor Cohen Stuart uses paint as physical material, and works that [illegible] as sculpture. Fri., Nov. 2, 6-8 p.m. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible], SlateContemporary.com.

[illegible]: The [illegible] 2018 An art exhibit of "[illegible]" [illegible] to all its beauty and [illegible], featuring the multi-medium work of 23 California artists [illegible] Berkeley, the human form. Opening Nov. 3. Saturdays, 1-6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 15. 385 26th St., Oakland. 510-452-4400, [illegible].com.

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] [illegible] video of the artist communicating with various objects in the mode of the wireless age. Through Nov. 11. **Gallery in Landscape** Featuring works in the gallery curated by Kathy Aoki. Through Nov. 11. **Gallery in Landscape** New work from Kathy Aoki and Camilla Newhagen. Opening reception Nov. 4, 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13. Wednesdays-Sundays, 12-5:30 p.m. Fri., Nov. 2, 6-9 p.m. Continues through Nov. 25. Free. 560 [illegible] St., Oakland. 510-[illegible], [illegible]Gallery.com.

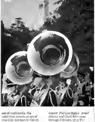
[illegible] Contemporary: Materials + Process Five artists highlight the gallery program's emphasis on nontraditional materials and media through photographs — some of them previously "failed" — sculpture, drawing and collage. Through Dec. 22. 805 [illegible] Ave., Oakland. 510-527-1214, [illegible].com.

The Opening Third [illegible] Show Featuring photography by [illegible]. Through Nov. 30. Free. [illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible], Uptown-Nightclub.com.

Vessel Gallery: Inside Out, A [illegible] Retrospective Featuring a retrospective of some of the artist's best works. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Nov. [illegible]. 471 25th St., Oakland.

PICKS

Fiat Lux Redux: Ansel Adams and Clark Kerr


Ansel Adams, "Pro-football game parade, UC Berkeley, 1966."

In 1963, University of California president Clark Kerr commissioned a book to commemorate the university's upcoming centennial, and invited photographer Ansel Adams to document the institution in the broadest sense — not just its campuses and their activities, but also its scattered field stations and research outposts. Consisting of 605 fine prints and more than 6,700 negatives, *Fiat Lux* would be the largest undertaking of Adams' career — despite its dissimilarity from his usual nature photos. *Fiat Lux Redux*, now at UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library gallery, showcases a sizable sampling of Adams' photos along with tangential artifacts and video of present-day UC academics reflecting on the book. While at a glance, the photos may look like standard college brochure fare, the speakers on video astutely point out a significant number of bizarre instances — places where Adams rendered the campuses overly gloomy, their scientific research slightly sinister, their rapid development unsettling. Through excellent use of multimedia, the exhibition reveals an eye of criticism, not merely flattery, in Adams' work. For anyone interested in the university's past and future trajectory, this exhibition is a provocative eye-opener. *Fiat Lux Redux: Ansel Adams and Clark Kerr* runs through February 28 at The Bancroft Library (University of California, Berkeley). 510-642-3781 or Bancroft.Berkeley.edu

— *Alex Bigman*

KALX 50

KALX Annual Fall Fundraiser
October 19–28 • KALX 90.7 FM • kalx.berkeley.edu
Tune in or stream live. Call 510-642-KALX to donate

L@TE: Friday Nights @ BAM/PFA
Final of 3-Part Concert Series Curated by KALX
November 2 • Shotgun Wedding Quintet

Tickets for this exclusive show is free for all UC Berkeley students, faculty and staff, and become available a week before the show at the Berkeley Art Museum. Doors open at 5PM. *2625 Durant btw College and Telegraph*

THEATER & DANCE

COMEDY

Berkeley and Pinball for a Dream [illegible] about at 7 [illegible] show headlined by [illegible]. Nov. 7, 7 p.m. [illegible] Kaboom Carnival, 522 2nd St., Oakland. 510-444-6481. [illegible]

Day of the [illegible] Featuring [illegible], named 2012 "Best comedian" by the *SF Bay Guardian*. Fri., Nov. 2, 8 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 3, 8 p.m. [illegible] door, $20 advance. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

Jeff Applebaum Featuring headliner Jeff Applebaum, as well as [illegible] Goldstone, [illegible], [illegible] Smith, and [illegible]. Sat., Nov. 3, 10:30 p.m. $10. Pan Theatre, 2135 Broadway, Oakland. 415-261-1540. PanTheatre.com.

Joe Nguyen Featuring headliner Joe Nguyen, as well as [illegible], [illegible], [illegible]. Fri., Nov. 2, 10:30 p.m. $10. Pan Theatre, 2135 Broadway, Oakland. 415-261-1540. PanTheatre.com.

Toil and Trouble A comedic spin on *Macbeth*, directed by Lauren Gunderson. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 8. $17-$32 for students. Lyric's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. 510-464-4468.

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

The Boy Who Fell From the Sky A performance by [illegible], based on the [illegible] tradition, [illegible], and [illegible] dance [illegible]. Nov. 4, 8 p.m. $20 advance, $25 at the door. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

Gamelan Sekar Jaya: Music and Dance of Bali Featuring Gamelan Sekar Jaya and [illegible] Balinese dance ensemble, who will lead company dancers in both traditional and contemporary Balinese dance works. Fri., Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m. $15-$25. Rhythmix Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda. 510-865-5060. Rhythmix.org.

Touching Up [illegible], the Bay [illegible] mixed-ability dance company, presents a mid-season performance of "Touching Up," new and [illegible] work [illegible] showcasing the company's [illegible] and vertical dance. Sat., Nov. 3, [illegible] p.m., free. The Great Wall of Oakland, West Grand Ave. [illegible] Broadway [illegible] St. [illegible] GreatWallOfOakland.org.

LIVE VARIETY

First Friday Follies [illegible] burlesque and [illegible] music hosted by MC Joey D. Light. First Friday of every month, 9 p.m. [illegible] Club, 2333 Telegraph Ave., [illegible]. 510-843-0178. [illegible]

Rebel Kings A drag show featuring [illegible], Randy Park, Stevie Ray, [illegible] Pope [illegible] Genie, Logan [illegible], and [illegible] by dancing and [illegible]. Third and first Wednesday of every [illegible], 9 p.m. $5. White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Ave. [illegible] 3801. WhiteHorseBar.com.

Sex, Drugs, and Accordion A cabaret-style show written by and starring Jet Black Pearl. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 12. $15. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291. TheMarsh.org.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Acid Test: The Many [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] show about the [illegible] [illegible] leader [illegible] by [illegible], written by Lynne Kaufman, and starring [illegible] Keith. Saturdays, 5 p.m.; Thursdays, Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 24. $15-$50. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291. TheMarsh.org.

Call [illegible] Rising [illegible]: True [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] one-man show chronicling his misadventures throughout the 1980s, from [illegible] attempts at working as a stripper and a gigolo to his start as a live-in waiter at a Richmond hotel. Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.; Sundays, 7 p.m. Continues through Dec. 16. $15-$50. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291. TheMarsh.org.

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts Fall Gala With a three-course dinner menu from [illegible] and live performances from the Center's [illegible]. Thu., Nov. 1, [illegible] p.m. $250-$7,500. East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, 339 11th St., Richmond. 510-234-5624. EastBayCenter.org.

The Exonerated Presented by Poetic Justice Project, the play tells the true stories of five men and one woman who were sent to Death Row for crimes they did not commit. Sat., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Nov. 4, 2-4 p.m. $10-$20. St. Mary's [illegible], 925 Brockhurst St. [illegible]

The Fantasticks Stewart [illegible] the "longest-running musical in history." Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; Thu., Nov. 1, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 18. $10-$22. Altarena Playhouse, 1409 High St., Alameda. 510-523-1553. Altarena.org.

Middle School Smash: Poetic Puppetry Participants will create their own [illegible] and learn about how puppetry is being used on stages throughout the world today. Sat., Nov. 4, 1-3 p.m. $10. Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, 2071 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-647-2972. BerkeleyRep.org/School.

Richard III The final Richmond, of the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley's 56th season. A performance classic. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sun., Nov. 11, 2 p.m. Continues through Nov. 17. $12-$15. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-5580.

[illegible] *the First* A trilogy of plays about [illegible] the Lionheart's [illegible] [illegible] in a [illegible] medieval world. The three plays [illegible] by day, [illegible]. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m. Continues through Nov. 18. $25. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-7800. BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Risk for [illegible] Love A [illegible] audience participation [illegible] experiment. Performer Frank Moore will [illegible] [illegible] of musicians, [illegible] [illegible] and audience members "to [illegible] realms of [illegible] beyond [illegible]." Sat., Nov. 3, 8 p.m., free. Temescal Art Center, 511 48th St., Oakland. 510-923-1074. TemescalArtCenter.org.

The Sound of Music Directed by Elizabeth McKoy. Sundays, 12 & 5 p.m.; Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 4 & 7 p.m.; Sun., Nov. 25, noon; Sun., Dec. 2, 12 & 5 p.m. Continues through Dec. 8. $17-$35. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542. JuliaMorgan.org.

Status Update World-premiere musical about life in the digital age, written by [illegible] Fortenberry, directed by [illegible] Wolff, and produced by CenterREP. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8:15 p.m.; Sundays, 2:15 p.m. Continues through Nov. 18. $29-$35. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-295-1400. LesherArtsCenter.org.

The Underpants Original about artists by Steve Martin, directed by [illegible] Butler, and produced by CenterREP. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Continues through Nov. 18. $33-$50. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-295-1400. LesherArtsCenter.org.

Tall Tales in the Hair in My Head Join the Dell'Arte Company for a night of [illegible] performance, physical comedy, stilt-walking, music and song. Sun., Nov. 4, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. $15-$20. [illegible] Auditorium, UC Berkeley, Berkeley. 510-642-4250.

Toil and Trouble Lyric Cauldron Theatre [illegible] the world premiere of Lauren Gunderson's play, a *Macbeth*-themed riff on *Macbeth* about three nearly 50-year-olds who [illegible] to take over a South American island inhabited by miniature [illegible]. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Nov. 22-24, 8 p.m.; Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 8 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 3, 8 p.m.; Dec. 6-8, 8 p.m. $18-$32. Lyric's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. 510-464-4468.

Within the Bones An [illegible] performance event inspired by the Tibetan Book of the Dead, featuring original live music and theatrical performances. Thursdays-Saturdays, 6-8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 3, free. Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. CI.Berkeley.CA.US/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=12778. ●

KevinBerne.com

PICKS

An Iliad

Berkeley Rep's *An Iliad* unfolds with urgency, with the purpose of getting its modern audience to care about what happened long ago and far away. After all we share a common humanity. And wars persist. This *Iliad* is a story of war: sprawling and personal, universal and tragically specific, told by a single voice on a bare stage. Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare's masterful adaptation is a buttoned-down but poetic rendering of Homer's epic story of the Trojan War. Henry Woronicz, as a grizzled storyteller, relates these legends as if he were reporting back from the battlefield. "Every time I sing this song, I hope it's the last time," he says as he prepares to start. The simplicity of the production is elegant and masterful: shadows and light, a sonorous mic, and an upright bass help a single voice speak volumes. Through November 18 at Berkeley Repertory Theatre (2025 Addison St., Berkeley; 510-647-2949 or BerkeleyRep.org). — *Erika Milvy*

HOLIDAY guide

The 2012 Holiday Guide

Our venerable Holiday Guide features our annual wrap-up of the year in recordings, books, DVDs, video games, and electronics. It [illegible] includes an annual guide to snow sports, featuring a look at what's new at all of the Tahoe resorts. And of course, we'll focus on gift-giving, with a multitude of unique local gift ideas. Finally, we'll [illegible] you up for the [illegible] with a focus on holiday entertaining and our traditional [illegible]

Advertising deadline:
Tues., Nov. 13 at [illegible]

Issue Date:
Wed., Nov. 21

For more information or to place your ad, please [illegible]
510-879-3700

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THEATER REVIEW

TRIPPING AT THE MARSH

The Hindu spiritual teacher Ram Dass started out as a nice Jewish boy from an affluent suburb. Then he took LSD.

By Erika Milvy

Warren David Keith's Ram Dass is appealing. Kate Meyer

When I get to the point in the yoga class when the teacher tells us to close our eyes and say "om," I do neither. I peek to see who is closing their eyes. I scan the room to see who the true believers are. I'm in it just for the exercise.

Ram Dass is in it for the spiritual enlightenment and the higher consciousness. I am not the optimal audience, then, for *ACID TEST: The Many Incarnations of Ram Dass*, Lynne Kaufman's play about the enlightened life and high times of the Hindu spiritual leader.

The play, based on the writings of the hippie spiritualist who wrote *Be Here Now*, does disseminate a philosophy of yogic awareness and the pursuit of good vibrations. But while I was anticipating the urge to roll my eyes, Ram Dass — or at least Warren David Keith, who plays Ram Dass in this one-man play — is an appealing personality. As it turns out, outmoded relic from the Age of Aquarius that he is, Ram Dass is a thoroughly okay guy to listen to for ninety minutes.

The Ram Dass up on stage is not a self-important blowhard; he has a real sense of humor and true warmth. He refrains from spouting too much mystical mumbo jumbo; he hardly chants a "shessh." Moreover, as the character says, "you don't have to believe everything you think."

Before being Ram Dass, the disciple of Hindu guru Neem Karoli Baba, Dass was Richard Alpert, a rich Jewish kid from suburban Boston. His father, a Boston lawyer, was one of the founders of Brandeis University and the president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. The younger Alpert became a tenured professor at Harvard University at age 29 and went on to take 377 LSD trips and work with Timothy Leary in research with psychedelics at Harvard. He was kicked out of Harvard, thereafter.

Show Details

ACID TEST: The Many Incarnations of Ram Dass runs through November 24 at The Marsh Berkeley (2120 Allston Way, Berkeley). $15-$35 sliding scale. 415-282-3055 or TheMarsh.org.

Later in life, Dass founded several charitable organizations, including SEVA, an international health organization based in Berkeley. He suffered a debilitating stroke and has written about that. He now teaches via a website from his home in Hawaii.

So the title of Kaufman's play, *The Many Incarnations of Ram Dass*, is certainly an apt one. But the show, which is essentially a dramatic recreation of a greatest-hits lecture medley from an imitation of a secondary figure in the psychedelic movement, is, by its very nature, an inauthentic experience. Like a souvenir tie-dyed T-shirt sold on Telegraph Avenue or Haight Street.

It's to the credit of Warren David Keith that this recreation works as well as it does. Director Joel Mullennix's pacing keeps the production fluid and engaging. Kaufman has well consolidated an eclectic lifetime into an evening's entertainment. Still, the spiel is laden with aphorisms and pat wisdom about mystical pathways to out-of-body awareness, transcendence, and pure and unadulterated groovyness.

Ram Dass begins by thanking us for being here — now. (Chuckle.) He speaks from a chair, his body and voice crippled from his stroke. His words are slow and labored so he soon steps out of his post-stroke condition. Through the magic of theater, he will make a full recovery for the purposes of storytelling.

He promises not to use too many "woo-woo words," and his manner is friendly and accessible. He translates his ideologies and spiritual pedagoguery into bite-sized, fun-sized pieces.

Much of the rest of the play involves funny stories, the kind that stoners tell each other about the wild things that happened when they were high: playing baseball in Mexico when they were so high they accidentally played really well; getting stopped by a state trooper for driving too slow and believing the state trooper was Krishna.

Other episodes are geared toward the touching. Dass tells of the final stages of his father's life. While Dass' counterculture adventures were wacky to his father, his dad always supported him and even represented his son's commune in a lawsuit filed by the town of Newton, Massachusetts. Dass' account of his father's positivity is a sentimental tribute to the man, and it's played for schmaltz.

Dass, a man who shows himself to be intellectually curious with an appealing sense of humor about himself, delves into mumbo jumbo and hocus pocus when he recounts the magical powers of Maharaj-ji, his guru.

After all the truths are told, the life lessons shared, the aphorisms aphorized, Dass' teachings are mostly predictable nuggets. Still, aging hippies who enjoy a nice stroll down memory lane and second-generation spiritualists will enjoy the Kool-Aid. ■

Erika.Milvy@EastBayExpress.com

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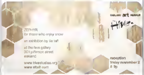

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LECTURES & LIT

Sexual Healing

Sex surrogate Cheryl Cohen Greene shares *An Intimate Life*

Cheryl Cohen Greene spent her childhood in fear of her body's sexual urges; on Sundays, she'd search for new priests to hear her growing list of confessions. Then, at age fourteen, in the early 1960s, she had sex for the first time — and enjoyed it. Married young, she moved with her husband and children to Berkeley in the early 1970s and one day attended a lecture sponsored by The San Francisco Sex Information, a sex hotline group. It changed her life. Cohen Greene realized that she didn't have to feel bad about being a woman who enjoyed sex; she could turn her proclivity into a career. Soon after, she became a sex surrogate — a certified professional who works intimately with clients on their sexual stumbling blocks.

Cheryl Cohen Greene

Over the years, Cohen Greene helped men work through issues like premature or delayed ejaculation and little or no sexual experience (sometimes with clients as old as seventy). "It's a profession I feel very at home in," said Cohen Greene. "I'm really proud of what I do." A certified sex educator and clinical sexologist, she is one of about fifty practicing sex surrogates in the country. Sex with clients doesn't happen immediately or sometimes at all. The protocol is six to eight sessions after being referred by a clinical therapist. And her clients are never called patients — that would be too clinical and suggests there's a problem that needs correcting. "It's never [about] curing or fixing," she said. "Just giving alternatives."

Everyone told her to write a book about her unorthodox life, so she did. *An Intimate Life: Sex, Love and My Journey as a Surrogate Partner*, co-written by writer/publicist Lorna Garano, is a memoir told through language as matter-of-fact as a textbook, describing risqué situations usually reserved for erotica. Cohen Greene's open marriage, client encounters where she helps men live out their sexual fantasies so they can go home to their straight-laced wives, explorations of clients' bodies and her own in front of a mirror — every chapter describes a new client and sexual awakening. Alongside these stories, Cohen Greene writes a sort of sex surrogate history, from the swinging Seventies to AIDS in the Eighties.

Her most famous patient was 36-year-old Mark, who'd spent most of his life in an iron lung with almost no physical contact with women other than his doctors and nurses. He wrote an article about his experience, which was picked up by Hollywood and is being released as the film *The Sessions*, starring Helen Hunt as Cohen Greene. (See our review on page 33 in this week's paper.)

At 68, Cohen Greene is compassionate, empathetic, and a great listener. She serves to educate parents and teens, assist couples, and make everyone feel comfortable with their own bodies and sexuality. And she knows that, in many cases, talk therapy is not enough. "Sometimes you need touch."

You can hear more about Cohen Greene's work at a Q&A on Sunday, November 4, at The Works Cooperative Exercise and Dance Studio (2566 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley). 4-6 p.m. $20. 510-841-1373 or WorksExercise.com.

— Alison Peters

LECTURES

Cheryl Cohen Greene. Cheryl Cohen Greene, the Berkeley sex therapist whose work with a quadriplegic client inspired the hit film "The Sessions," will speak about her career and the making of the film. Hors d'oeuvres included. Sun., Nov. 4, 4-6 p.m., $20. The Works, 2566 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-1373. WorksExercise.com.

Classic Hikes of North America Join veteran adventure journalist and photographer Peter Potterfield for a digital presentation of his favorite backcountry treks in the United States and Canada. Thu., Nov. 1, 7-8:30 p.m. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140, REI.com.

The Criminal Injustice System Panelists will include activists from various legal and penal systems. Hosted by The Alameda County Peace and Freedom Party. All ages welcome. Sat., Nov. 3, 2-4:30 p.m., free. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. StarryPloughPub.com.

Dan Savage The activist and sex writer discusses his life and work. Sat., Nov. 3, 8 p.m., $40-$47. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, Berkeley. (510) 642-9988 x1. CalPerformances.org.

Electoral Wisdom in an Era of Political Polarization Lecture given by Professor Henry Brady, Dean of the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. Thu., Nov. 1, 7:30-8:30 p.m., $10, free for UCB students. International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. 510-642-9490.

Future Fridays: Ray Jayawardhana Observe as Ray Jayawardhana brings news from the front lines of the epic quest to find planets — and even life — beyond our solar system. Fri., Nov. 2, 7-8:30 p.m., $13. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

Greil Marcus: Jay DeFeo and [illegible] Jazz Noted cultural critic Greil Marcus will discuss the work of Bay Area artist Jay DeFeo, who was part of the vibrant community of avant-garde artists, poets, and musicians in San Francisco during the 1950s and 1960s. Mon., Nov. 5, 7-8 p.m., free. Lisser Hall Theatre, Mills College, Oakland. Mills.edu.

Out of the Mist and Into the Mayhem Join Professor Todd Dawson for the genial East Bay Science Cafe on the biology of individuals in the changing world. Wed., Nov. 7, 7 p.m., donations requested. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Allen Bush Bush reads from his book *The Art of Living Joyfully*. Wed., Nov. 7, 7 p.m., free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BooksInc.net/Berkeley.

Art Deal Writers' Society Writer Deb Cooks leads a weekly writing and performance workshop designed to generate new material and create a sustainable community of Bay Area writers. Mondays, 7-9:30 p.m., DebCooks.com. The 25th Street Collective, 477 25th St., Oakland. 510-384-3140. 25thStreetCollective.com.

Brian Janosch Janosch, an editor at The Onion, shares the publication's new book, *The Onion Book of Known Knowledge: A Definitive Encyclopaedia Of Existing Information*. Fri., Nov. 2, 7 p.m., free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley. 510-525-7777. BooksInc.net/Berkeley.

Darick Robertson Darick Robertson, artist of the new comic library *Transmetropolitan* and *The Boys*. Sat., Nov. 3, 4 p.m., free. The Escapist Comic Bookstore, 3090 Claremont Ave., Berkeley. 510-647-6040. EscapistComics.com.

The East Bay Mystery Readers Group Visit website for monthly title. First Saturday of every month, 1 p.m. EBMRG.org. Walden Pond Books, 3316 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-832-4438. WaldenPondBooks.com.

Free Book Exchange Give and get free books of all genres. Saturdays, Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., free. 510-705-1200. BayAreaFreeBookExchange.com. Bay Area Free Book Exchange, 10520 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-705-1200. BayAreaFreeBookExchange.com.

Get Book Reflections on Tour Featuring four acclaimed young adult novelists Marjorie Kennedy, Janet Gurtler, and sister-writing team Lisa and Laura Roecker. Appearing again @ Books Inc. on Nov. 3 @ 4pm. Fri., Nov. 2, 7 p.m., free. A Great

PICKS

Brian Janosch

Did you know that an airplane is defined as a "fixed-wing flying vehicle that has made it impossible to avoid returning home for holidays?" Or that revered British primatologist Jane Goodall "probably let a couple of chimps get to second base?" You can learn these "facts" and many more in America's Finest News Source's delirious encyclopedic parody *The Onion Book of Known Knowledge*, a gold-embossed volume that includes more than 2,500 bonus entries on everything under the sun, plus maps, charts, and illustrations. *The Onion*'s Brian Janosch will bring you up to speed at Books Inc. (1760 Fourth St., Berkeley) on Friday, Nov. 2. Starting time approximately is 7:15 p.m., free. 510-525-7777 or BooksInc.net — *Alison Peters*

M. Doty and Friends

Parker [illegible] first family drama by ditching a starting role on her softball team and embarking on a relationship with an assistant baseball coach. Samantha's innocent kiss at a high school party ends with the death of the boy she kissed — the tragic result of his severe peanut allergy. Kate takes on her school's secret underground society and won't rest until the people who murdered her best friend are brought to justice. Get Real: Campus on Tour features authors reading from their young-adult fiction books (some inspired by true stories) about the high school experience. M. Doty (*Surviving High School*), Miranda Kenneally (*Stealing Parker*), Janet Gurtler (*Who I Kissed*), and sisters Lisa and Laura Roecker (*The Liar Society: Lies That Bind*) will share their books and teenage horror stories at Books Inc. (1344 Park St., Alameda) on Saturday, Nov. 3, 4 p.m., free. 510-522-2226 or BooksInc.net — *AP*

Rachel Neumann

New York writer Rachel Neumann was on a speedy path to exhaustion in the weeks after September 11, 2001 when, on assignment for the *Village Voice*, she met renowned Vietnamese Buddhist teacher-monk Thich Nhat Hanh. He was just sitting, nothing deeper than that — but his very being, quiet and present, changed her hectic life. Soon, she became his personal editor, learned about Buddhist practices, had two children, turned forty, and returned to the rural California commune of her youth — everything seemed to fall into place for this skeptic-workaholic-turned-mindful woman. Neumann shares the story of her conversion and lessons she learned along the way in *Not Quite Nirvana*, from which she'll read at Moe's Books (2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley) on Wednesday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m., free. 510-849-2087 or MoesBooks.com — *AP*

Lisa and Laura Roecker

Stacey [illegible]

Anat Shenker-Osorio

[illegible] communications expert Anat Shenker-Osorio believes that the language politicians use to describe the economy is the basis for our distinctly American desire to "keep the economy happy" — to treat the economy as a sentient being we must satiate at all costs. In her first book, *Don't Buy It: The Trouble with Talking Nonsense About the Economy*, Shenker-Osorio suggests that we stop thinking and talking about the economy as if it will respond, and just get back to thinking of it as something that should work for us, not the other way around. She'll shed light on her findings at Diesel (5433 College Ave., Oakland) on Thursday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m., free. 510-653-9965 or DieselBookstore.com — *AP*

Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave. [illegible] 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlace-forBooks.com.

[illegible] 30 Thursdays Open mic poetry [illegible] at 10:30 p.m. by dancing, poetry, rap, food, live DJs, and music. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. [illegible] accepted. La Peña Cultural Center, 2271 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-533-6629. [illegible]

[illegible] Thu., Nov. 1, 12:30 p.m. [illegible] Library, 100 [illegible] Library, Berkeley. 510-642-0137.

Mystery Reading Group Group discussion of mystery novels, facilitated by bestselling author Camille Minichino. First Saturday of every month, 9:30-11 a.m. Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley. 510-667-7900, ACLibrary.org.

Project Censored A release party for the 2013 issue of *Censored* [illegible] from the book *Resistance*: a compilation of the top censored stories from 2011-2012. Sat., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087. MoesBooks.com.

Rachel Neumann Neumann reads from her funny and incisive memoir, *Not Quite Nirvana: a Skeptic's Journey to Mindfulness*. Mon., Nov. 5, 7 p.m. Free. A Great Good Place for Books, 6120 LaSalle Ave. [illegible] 510-339-8210. GreatGoodPlace-forBooks.com.

The Drinking [illegible] An exhibition dedicated to poetry and experimental books, with a reading and recordings of books, and a chance to take home a book drawn from overstock of small East Bay presses. Through Dec. 9. BAM/PFA, 2155 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808, BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

[illegible] Firstly with Zara [illegible] Wed., Nov. 7, 7-8 p.m., free. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-848-3227, HillsideClub.org.

The [illegible] Book Group A monthly [illegible]

Howard Mystery series. First Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m., free. El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante. 510-374-3991. CCCLib.org/Locations/ElSobrante.html.

Timothy Steele California poet Timothy Steele will be the [illegible] for the third installment of the new reading series. First Wednesday Poetry: Wed., Nov. 7, 7-8 p.m. St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington Ave., Albany. 510-525-1788.

PUBLIC INTEREST

Wednesday Lawyer in the Library Lottery sign-up begins at 5:45 p.m. First Wednesday of every month, 6-8 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Main Branch, 125 14th St., Oakland. 510-238-3134, OaklandLibrary.org.

Claremont Canyon Conservancy Annual Meeting The 11th annual meeting of the Claremont Canyon Conservancy, featuring St. John [illegible] an expert on wildfire conditions. Sun., Nov. 4, 3 p.m., free. Claremont Hotel Club & Spa, 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley. 510-843-3000, [illegible]

[illegible] Action 2050 Join climate [illegible] leaders [illegible] and [illegible] as they provide the latest analysis of the path to 2050. Wed., Nov. 7, 7-9 p.m., free. Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2220, EcologyCenter.org.

Climate Action and Adaptation Tour DIY home analysis to reduce your impact on climate change. Pre-registration required. Sat., Nov. 3, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2220, EcologyCenter.org.

Food [illegible] General Meeting Planning session for upcoming and ongoing Food Not Bombs meals. First Wednesday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Long Haul, 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-0751, [illegible]

KALW's Election Night Live Live radio coverage of the election with KALW host Rose Aguilar, KALW news, court reporters Holly Kernan, and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute instructor Larry Bensky. Tue., Nov. 6, 8-11 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 2020 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761, TheFreight.org.

Lawyers in the Library Services provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign-up begins at 4:45 p.m. Call 510-597-0811 to confirm event. First Tuesday of every month, 5-7 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Piedmont Branch, 5380 College Ave., Oakland. 510-597-5017, OaklandLibrary.org.

Living Liberally: Drinking Liberally A political discussion group. First and third Sunday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 2221 Broadway, Oakland. 510-451-4677, LukasOakland.com.

Current Affairs Readers Group Discussing the "new normal" of social ends and what's so new about it. First Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Montclair Branch Library, 1687 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-482-7810, [illegible]

[illegible] Support Letter-writing Thursdays, 8 p.m. [illegible] 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-0751, [illegible]

Seeds of Freedom A 30-minute film, produced by the Gaia Foundation and African Biodiversity Network, about the effect of GMO seeds on global farming. Followed by a panel discussion of our food system and Prop. 37. Fri., Nov. 2, 7-10 p.m., free. David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900, BrowerCenter.org.

Transgender [illegible] Join a panel of transgender and non-transgender allies exploring their interpretations of [illegible] on the topic. Thu., Nov. 1, 7:30-9 p.m. [illegible] Oakland. [illegible]

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THU NOV 15 7PM
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FOOD & DRINK

The Local Butcher Shop's roast beef sandwich doesn't disappoint.

Chris Duffey

WHEN BUTCHERS MAKE SANDWICHES

Two Berkeley butcher shops offer delicious — but decidedly different — takes on the classic combination of meat and bread

By Luke Tsai

The sandwich existed for hundreds of years before some profligate English aristocrat lent it his name — well before the invention of sliced bread, whatever the saying might imply. Here we are, citizens of the 21st century, and the basic concept is still going strong — at food trucks, cafeterias, and restaurants both high-end and low.

But for a simple sandwich, the best place to go isn't always a restaurant or deli counter, but rather the kind of old-fashioned butcher shop that is slowly making a comeback — where the meat comes from animals that were raised humanely and weren't pumped full of chemicals.

As long as you don't mind your sandwich served grab-and-go style and at room temperature, you won't find many better options than at two sustainability-minded Berkeley butcher shops: Star Meats and The Local Butcher Shop.

Old-School and New-School

Star Grocery has occupied its spot on Claremont Avenue since 1922, always under the same family ownership. With cute, handwritten signs and well-worn wooden shelves stacked high (and somewhat haphazardly) with eclectic foodstuffs, the place feels less like a modern supermarket than it does an old country store. Star Meats, the butcher shop in back, has been run independently since the Fifties, and for some families in the neighborhood, three generations of kids have come in to buy sandwiches. For a couple years in the mid-2000s, the shop was a branch of Alameda-based Baron's Meat and Poultry, which is when it switched over to all hormone- and antibiotic-free meats and began developing the current sandwich menu: about a dozen options, most with goofy Italian American-inspired names (the Raging Bull, the Soprano, etc.). Co-owners Sarah Ryan and Joe Cates, longtime employees of the shop, bought the business two years ago.

The sandwiches are all $8 or $9, and everything's sliced and assembled to order, so if you come at the height of the lunch rush, especially on the weekend, expect to wait a good ten or fifteen minutes.

Meanwhile, The Local Butcher Shop, set in the tony Gourmet Ghetto, is among a vanguard of new shops working exclusively with whole animals — no prepackaged cuts. Monica and Aaron Rocchino opened the shop last year, and while the black-and-white design aesthetic and bow-and-apron employee dress code evoke an old-timey feel, everything here is shiny and new (and fairly fancy). All of the meat is pasture-raised, all of it comes from within a 150-mile radius of Berkeley.

Because the Rocchinos are turning over whole pigs and cows, the sandwich program has always been pivotal — a way to use cuts that aren't as popular with home cooks. So they hired a full-time sandwich chef, Kel Troughton, who comes up with each week's menu based on what's in season at the farmers' markets. Each day there's one sandwich available ($9), pre-assembled in small batches throughout the course of the day. Each day it's something different, so you could conceivably go an entire year without eating the same thing twice.

The Roast Beef

One of the best measures of a sandwich shop is its roast beef. Neither place disappointed. At Star Meats, my favorite sandwich was the Fat Albert: a generous portion of house-roasted Niman Ranch top round (quite rare and only lightly seasoned), cheddar, and arugula, served on a La Farine rustic baguette. These are workmanlike ingredients, as far as artisan sandwiches go, but the meat was perfectly clean tasting and tender. A dollop of chipotle mayo added a bold, smoky kick.

The Local Butcher Shop typically features roast beef sandwiches, with different veggies and condiments, a couple times a week. One day's offering was a roast beef sandwich topped with a tangy fennel-and-apple slaw, served on a plump Acme sweet deli roll. Here, too, the meat was allowed to shine on its own. The beef, from a leg roast, was a pinkish gray (less rare than expected) but didn't suffer for it: This was savory, full-flavored meat — moist enough, and delicious enough, to eat by itself. And, gilding the lily, the taste of high-quality olive oil — from the house-made aioli — lingered, deliriously, in my mouth.

The Other Sandwiches

The roast beef is actually the only deli meat at Star Meats that's cooked in house — the rest of the cold cuts are well sourced, but more run-of-the-mill. That said, the Goodfella — with salami, hot coppa, fresh mozzarella, and sun-dried tomatoes — was as good a take on a classic Italian sub as I've had out West. I only wish I'd found out sooner about an off-menu sandwich called the Dirty Bird (turkey, pastrami, curry garlic aioli), which I overheard a couple of brash gentlemen order "extra dirty" — and which Ryan compared to tikka masala.

Star Meats does have a couple of non-meat sandwiches. At The Local Butcher Shop, vegetarians are out of luck.

Still, at the latter, I never had a bad sandwich. The Pork Milanese was a breaded and fried thing that maintained its crunch even a half hour later. And a lush black pepper pork — even more tender than the roast beef — was complemented by the restrained sweetness of late-season pluots and the bloomy funk of blue cheese.

Neither butcher shop has tables where you can sit, but both have benches outside in quiet nooks where you can enjoy your little picnic — "sandwich seats," a fellow Star Meats sandwich eater dubbed them. I'm of the opinion that's where these sandwiches taste best. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

Star Meats
3068 Claremont Ave., Berkeley
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Sandwiches from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Cash, Visa, Mastercard

Sample Menu

Fat Albert	$8
Potato Salad	$5.99/lb

The Local Butcher Shop
1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
510-845-6328
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sandwiches from 11 a.m. until sold out
Cash, Visa, Mastercard

Sample Menu

Sandwich of the Day	$9
Chocolate Chip Walnut Cookie	$2

WHAT THE FORK

A GROCERY STORE FOR WEST OAKLAND?

Plus a rundown of East Bay *pan de muerto*

By Luke Tsai

Arizmendi's pan de muerto: still too sweet. [illegible]

Finally after a ten-year wait West Oakland may be closer to getting a new grocery store. If all goes according to plan, People's Community Market will open by the end of 2013 — a culmination of the decade that its CEO Brahm Ahmadi has spent working to get the project off the ground.

Last Thursday, Ahmadi, who founded the affiliated nonprofit People's Grocery, kicked off an ambitious investment campaign with a "Front Porch" community gathering and pitch session held at the Numi Tea Garden in East Oakland's warehouse district.

West Oakland's shortage of affordable, healthy food is well-documented, but the facts are still startling: There's only one small retail grocer — the Mandela Foods Cooperative — serving a community of 25,000 people. Meanwhile, the neighborhood has some fifty corner stores that sell mostly low-quality foods at high prices — a ratio of about one for every five hundred people. (Rockridge, by comparison, has one corner store for every 7,000 people, Ahmadi estimated.)

Standing amid baskets of fresh produce, Ahmadi spoke movingly about the lengths to which West Oakland residents now go in order to shop at a real grocery store: traveling miles by foot or crisscrossing the city via public transportation.

"What people have to go through if they want good healthy food is ridiculous," he said.

But, as Ahmadi pointed out, this wasn't always the case. In the Fifties, West Oakland was home to lots of grocery stores, big and small — before "white flight" before the last of those stores shut down or moved elsewhere sometime in the Nineties.

And yet Ahmadi estimates that West Oakland residents spend nearly $60 million on groceries each year — not an insignificant amount of buying power. Why not open a grocery store that would keep that money in West Oakland? And why not also make the new grocery store a community hub — a place with a literal front porch where people could gather?

In 2002, Ahmadi founded People's Grocery with the intention of opening just such a place, only to realize that — by his own admission — he lacked both the know-how and the financial wherewithal to bring that to fruition. So for the past decade, People's Grocery has operated as a nonprofit, helping to bring nutritious, affordable food to West Oakland on a smaller scale — through its mobile pop-up grocery store and its bargain-priced CSA program.

The final hurdle won't be easy. To fully fund the People's Community Market, Ahmadi and his team will need to raise $1.2 million via a Direct Public Offering (DPO) — a grassroots investment campaign that's asking members of the community to become shareholders, with a minimum investment of $1,000. Once that $1.2 million target has been secured, the California FreshWorks Fund has agreed to chip in a loan for the final $2.4 million.

Pan de Muerto

As *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) approaches, on November 1, at What the Fork, we're mainly interested in what tasty treats the holiday has to offer. In this case, the signature food item, *pan de muerto* ("bread of the dead") is well worth seeking out — a not-too-sweet respite from your trick-or-treat-fueled sugar rush.

The local versions I've had have all been eggy and just a little bit sweet, with a soft interior that's partway between bread and cake — something along the lines of a challah or brioche. Typically, each *pan de muerto* is covered with little knobs of dough that are meant to look like bones, and then the whole thing gets dusted with sugar.

At Berkeley's Casa Latina Bakery (1805 San Pablo Ave.), each $2.50 loaf is covered with a *lot* of crinkly granulated sugar, but the bread slices well and is more fragrant than it is sweet, flecked with caraway seeds that provide its distinctive flavor.

My longtime favorite had been the rich and intensely eggy version sold down the street at Mi Tierra Foods (2082 San Pablo Ave.), available in two sizes ($1.99 and $2.99, respectively). But the loaf I sampled this year was a slight disappointment — a bit dry. That said, what's nice for those with less of a sweet tooth is that Mi Tierra also offers a version topped with sesame seeds instead of sugar.

The most unique *pan de muerto* I've eaten is sold at the Lakeshore branch of Arizmendi Bakery (3265 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland). Each $4.50 loaf is fragrant with anise and orange flavor and is shaped, adorably, like a little man, with chocolate-chip eyes and chocolate-chunk buttons. This year's run wasn't available until Wednesday, October 31, but in the past I've found it to be the least sweet and the most bread-like of the versions available in the East Bay.

All three bakeries should carry freshly baked *pan de muerto* at least through Friday, November 2. You can eat yours at the gravesite of a loved one, as is traditional, or — if you're like me — you can just bring it home to enjoy for breakfast, sliced thin and spread with jam or honey, for several days running. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

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ELECTION 2012

THE FUTURE OF SCHOOL LUNCH

What OUSD's ambitious plan to revamp school meals will change (and what it won't)

By Luke Tsai

Workers at Oakland High School serve heated-up frozen foods like potatoes and breaded chicken. Luke Tsai

At Oakland's Piedmont Avenue Elementary School, lunch is served in a corner of the school auditorium, in a space no bigger than a storage closet. The de facto "kitchen" consists of a refrigerator, a warming oven (where prepackaged frozen food is reheated), and an umbrella-topped snack bar counter, where the school's 383 students pick up their meals.

Nothing is really cooked here — or at any of the Oakland Unified School District's 64 "satellite" sites that lack functioning kitchens and constitute about three-quarters of the campuses in the district. Instead, meals come in individually plastic-wrapped portions — pizza, baby carrots, and applesauce on a recent Wednesday.

Because the kitchen at the Piedmont Avenue school has no sinks, the school isn't able to offer a salad bar. And to add insult to injury, the auditorium doubles as the cafeteria, so lunchtime is less than sacrosanct.

"They've got the band in here. ... The PTA comes here," said Shane Catherine, the school's lone food service employee. "If they have a movie day, I have to watch that movie."

There's also a church group that meets in that same multipurpose room on Sundays, so every Monday morning Catherine has to rebuild and reorganize her kitchen — such as it is — all over again from scratch.

Piedmont Avenue Elementary is representative of the day-to-day reality at many schools across the district. Only about one in four OUSD campuses has a working kitchen, and even at those sites a lot of the cooking equipment is outdated or unusable. As a result, most of the food is cooked — then portioned out and sealed in plastic — at one of three central kitchen facilities, two days before it's actually served. A handful of schools don't even have warming ovens, and in those cases the food is shipped out, already heated, in thermally insulated delivery boxes.

Much of this is likely to change if Measure J passes on the November 6 ballot. If the bond measure gets at least 55 percent of the vote, the school district will have access to $475 million in facilities upgrade funds, roughly $44 million of which will be designated for revamping school kitchens.

The proposed reforms follow the recommendations of a feasibility study conducted last year by the Berkeley nonprofit Center for Ecoliteracy. The centerpiece of the plan is the construction of a central commissary kitchen in West Oakland where ingredients will be prepped before the food is delivered to 58 schools with renovated (or newly built) "finishing kitchens." There, the final dishes will be assembled and cooked — not just rewarmed. Adjacent to the commissary kitchen will be a 1.5-acre farm that will eventually supply some portion of the district's fresh produce needs. Meanwhile, schools that already have cooking kitchens will receive equipment upgrades — under the new system, those sites will be largely self-sufficient, with several designated as school-community kitchens that will host cooking classes and other community events.

None of this will happen if Measure J doesn't pass. And while there's been no organized opposition to the bond measure and school lunch reform isn't generally viewed as a controversial topic, there also isn't any contingency plan to speak of.

"If the measure doesn't pass, we have to go back and figure it all out," said school board president Jody London.

The district's meals program has already received a fair share of accolades. The California Endowment recently honored Superintendent Tony Smith with an award for his work in helping lead the push toward healthy, freshly prepared food. And at a recent "Rethinking School Lunch" workshop hosted by the Oakland Museum of California, OUSD representatives were the featured panelists — held up as a model that other food service employees from around the state ought to aspire toward.

The reforms that have already been implemented aren't trivial. During her tenure, Jennifer LeBarre, the district's food service director, has taken soda, trans fats, high fructose corn syrup, and high-sodium foods off the menu. She's instituted Meatless Mondays at the elementary and middle schools. But LeBarre is forthcoming about the program's limits and describes the facilities situation as "dire."

"The fact that we do not have a consistent program and a consistent experience across the district is a problem," LeBarre said. "We have the expectation that we're going to have qualified teachers and textbooks and school supplies in every classroom. We need to have that same expectation in having a quality meal program at every school."

In particular, the district still has a long way to go before it reaches LeBarre's stated goal of reducing pre-cooked, prepackaged foods to 20 percent of what is served. She estimates that right now that number hovers closer to 50 or 60 percent.

At Oakland High School, for instance, a hard-working staff of fifteen cranks out a thousand meals a day for the school's own students while also supplying food to fifteen other schools and twelve child development centers. During a recent visit, the food service staff showed off a fully stocked salad bar and a couple of "daily specials" that had been cooked in house: a chicken salad pita wrap made with chicken that was just poached that morning, for example.

Still, most of what was served on this particular day was standard-order, Sysco-supplied frozen food, taken straight out of a box and heated up: seasoned potatoes, breaded chicken cutlets, and such. One of the lead cooks shared her long list of daily tasks, and only a couple items were "freshly cooked": a tomato salsa and the rice component of a barbecue chicken stir-fry. Quesadillas and grilled cheese sandwiches were precooked and frozen; pinto beans came straight out of a can.

For the idealist, "from scratch" cooking implies tomato sauce made from just-picked heirlooms and stirred for hours over a low flame — the kind of food that celebrity school food reform advocates like Alice Waters or Jamie Oliver would serve at a backyard luncheon.

But LeBarre made it clear that the district's plans are nothing if not grounded in the practical realities of having to serve 38,000 students each day, so "from scratch" — as defined by OUSD — is always going to be somewhat of a relative term. Tomato sauce will always come out of a jar, but the cooks are already adding herbs and spices and fresh vegetables. Frozen chicken tenders and pre-packaged cheese burritos probably aren't going anywhere. The staff at the new commissary kitchen still isn't going to bake fresh bread; it isn't going to soak beans overnight. OUSD just doesn't have the budget or the staff to do that kind of home-style cooking on a mass scale.

Meanwhile, the food distributor behemoth Sysco is likely to remain the district's biggest supplier for the foreseeable future. But as LeBarre pointed out, "Sysco is like our grocery store. When you go to your grocery store, you decide what aisle to shop on."

She stressed that OUSD has already begun to source many of the healthier items that Sysco has in its inventory: multigrain sandwich buns, whole-wheat pastas, and a variety of spices. If the new facilities upgrades are successful, more and more of the food served district-wide will be cooked fresh the same day it's served — even if canned and pre-cooked (even lightly processed) ingredients are still incorporated.

"School food reform is not separate from school reform," Superintendent Smith said in a statement released earlier this year. "It's part of the basic work we have to do in order to correct systemic injustice, pursue equity, and give our children the best future possible."

By now it's well established that children who don't eat well aren't in the best position to succeed academically. What's clear, at least at Piedmont Avenue Elementary, is that administrators and kitchen staff are all primed for a change. What Catherine, the cook, and Zarina Ahmad, the school's principal, share in common is that their mothers both worked in food service for OUSD. Both recalled how in the old days their mothers cooked *real food* — "what they're trying to bring back," Catherine explained. "When [my mom] came to school now, she thought it was like bird food."

ONLY ABOUT ONE IN FOUR OUSD CAMPUSES HAS A WORKING KITCHEN, AND EVEN AT THOSE SITES A LOT OF THE COOKING EQUIPMENT IS OUTDATED OR UNUSABLE.

Catherine said her mother would talk about how she had to stir oatmeal in the mornings; Ahmad said her mom used to roast multiple whole turkeys for Thanksgiving. It's a quaint picture of the past, and the truth is it's unclear whether the future of school lunch in OUSD will look exactly like that.

The proposed changes don't promise a utopia. In the best case scenario, four or five years from now a new kitchen and cafeteria will be installed at the Piedmont Avenue school — most likely in a trailer or some other modular unit. There will be a salad bar and a dishwasher and stainless steel flatware, and what's served will be a mix of prepackaged food and food that's made at least partly, but not completely, "from scratch." Instead of plastic-wrapped personal pizzas, whole-wheat pizza dough (and toppings and tomato sauce) will come in from the new central kitchen so that it can be baked fresh each morning — the smell of it wafting in, perhaps, through open classroom windows.

That, in itself, would be something. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

RESTAURANTS&CAFES

Burgers in Berkeley

900 Grayson

900 Grayson St., Berkeley 510-704-9900. The dishes have offbeat, campy names like Lady Boy and TV Dinner, but don't let the kitschy language distract you from the other charms of this quietly upscale breakfast and lunch place. The cooking shines with bold seasonings and refined technique, and the service navigates crisp and casual as few restaurants can. That mix of highbrow and pristine is a fitting blend for West Berkeley, a traditionally scrappy neighborhood sprouting sleek condo lofts. Still, 900 Grayson's burger, topped with chunky bacon and barbecue sauce, defies gentrification's stereotypes. $$

Au Coquelet Cafe

2000 University Ave., Berkeley 510-845-0433. With ample elbow room, abundant light, an amiable languor, and a head-scratchingly wide array of well-cooked, hefty-portioned, affordable food and drinks — from breakfast burritos to rainbow trout to burgers to cappuccino to exotic cocktails such as Moscow Mules — Au Coquelet is the primordial cafe. It's how cafes were meant to be. The dining room is perfect for meetings, given its convenient location and widely spaced tables. In the front room, facing onto University Avenue, elephantine coffee drinks accompany home-baked pastries. Croissants are never more than one hour out of the oven, and the big, chunky brownies might just be Berkeley's best. $

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers

1591 Solano Ave., 510-526-8185, and 1600 Shattuck Ave., 510-849-2827, Berkeley. At Barney's you get a huge, juicy slab of ground beef topped with everything from ultra classic Cheddar to Jamaican jerk sauce or grilled vegetables and marinara sauce. Don't eat beef — or any meat at all? The same gourmet fixins top turkey burgers, veggie burgers, chicken and tofu. Curly fries, ketchup, and soda will provide you with the other three basic American food groups. $

Cafe Rouge

1782 Fourth St., Berkeley 510-525-1440. Berkeley's well-coiffed and well-to-do have taken Cafe Rouge to heart. It's a classic Californian restaurant, complete with all the trappings: organic vegetables and sustainably raised meats, a wood-fired oven, and smooth and efficient service. Chef Marsha McBride creates deceptively simple food, but imbues even her hamburgers with juicy, meaty love. Some say her roast chicken with savory bread pudding is one of the best dishes in the region. $$-$$$

Docs of the Bay

Various locations (mobile truck). Zak Silverman, Lauren Smith, and John Bebbett's Oakland-based sandwich truck plies both sides of the bay. Docs serves plenty for vegetarians to love (the craggy, cumin-spiced black bean burger has dimensions of a classic), but the heart of the menu is the burger, griddled onboard according to the Midwest smash method: a blob of grass-finished Black Angus beef seeded with minced onion and formed into a patty as it cooks via an old-fashioned iron bacon press. It meets up with secret sauce on a fantastic bun from Emeryville-based Firebrand Artisan Breads, which bakes in a wood-fired oven. It's a restaurant-grade burger, served through the Plexiglas of a food truck. Follow via website or Twitter (@docsofthebay). $

Fatapple's

1346 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley 510-526-2260. The design of this beloved diner-cum-bakery-counter may be an unlikely study in Eighties postmodernism — all deconstructed walls and primary colors — but the food is as traditional as the bakery's signature apple pies. Breakfast is popular, and the burgers, meatloaf, and gravy-drizzled turkey dinners are all fine versions. But the soul of this place resides in impossibly thick olallaberry milkshakes and seriously crispy onion rings. $-$$

Fivetenburger

Various locations (mobile truck) 510-541-1418. Launched in 2010, Roland Robles' roving burger truck [illegible] to the scene. If new-school food trucks are hopelessly bougie, Robles just might be the hardest hustling mobile vendor in the East Bay, steering his quilted-steel converted taco truck from lunch in Emeryville to happy hours in front of Oakland bars to nighttime munchy service up and down the five-one-oh. If you read the ingredient list, it's clear these burgers could qualify as "artisan" — especially if you spring for the grass-fed beef option — but they're big and satisfying enough to feel anything but precious. Don't miss the garlic fries, tossed with roasted garlic oil made right on the truck. Follow location via website, Facebook (Facebook.com/fivetenburger), or Twitter (@fivetenburger). $

Freehouse

2700 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 510-647-8700. After Daryl Ross shut down struggling-yet-beloved Adagia, he decided to give the sophisticated farm-to-table spot a total overhaul. What emerged is Freehouse, a campus brewpub at the end of a row of frats. The room still has whispers of its former greatness, and quality ingredients are clearly a priority to chef Kevin Kroger (Monk's Kettle), but much of the pub grub is flawed or just uninteresting. The menu is almost beside the point, though. A bar/restaurant this close to campus, dramatically housed in a former church, has a student fanbase practically built in. $$

Lake Anza

Wildcat Canyon and Grizzly Peak roads, Berkeley, 888-327-2757. This is the latter-day snack bar in the post Food Network world. Festooned with blow-up beach gear, Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head toys, and vintage outdoor photographs, Lake Anza Beach Club stands mere blocks from the Gourmet Ghetto, albeit vertical blocks. So from its two takeout-only windows — one facing the lake's paid zone and the other outside, adjoining the parking lot — come chili, sandwiches, and coffee drinks using locally sourced and in many cases sustainably grown ingredients. Also here are snack-bar standards such as nachos, hot dogs, and soft ice cream. Head honchos here are Daniel Bergeron and Eddie Lundeen, who created Point Isabel's popular Mudpuppy's Tub & Scrub and Sit and Stay Cafe. $

Lot 68 Lounge

2[illegible] Ave., Berkeley 510-64[illegible]-2662. Lacking street access, or a [illegible] window to the world outside, Lot 68 occupies a space set [illegible] off the Shattuck Cinemas lobby. It looks and feels like other chic restaurant-bars. Mauve walls stretch to a matte black ceiling lightened by glass bricks. On Friday nights and when important games are on the two huge flatscreen TVs, this place is packed. Lacking a formal kitchen and doing its best with a microwave/convection/infrared oven, Lot 68 is a few steps up from a concession stand, using parbaked, frozen, and frozen components to prepare attractive, satisfying versions of American-bistro classics. $

Oscar's

1890 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-849-2164. After countless nighttime munchies raids by five decades of Cal students, it just may be possible to get a contact high from the chairs at this lovable dive. Longtime grill cook John Huang gets the burgers nicely charred and keeps them reasonably juicy, even if the buns are cottony and the

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

Rio California

1232 Preservation Park Way, Oakland, 510-834-2589. This Brazilian lunch spot, located on the first floor of a restored Victorian that sits within spitting distance of I-980, is one of Oakland's best-kept secrets. Ney Araújo, the Rio California's gregarious chef-owner, opened the cafe in the late Nineties, offering an affordable lunch option for employees of the dozens of nonprofits in Preservation Park — and for whoever else cares to come. Araújo's mayo-heavy salad-based sandwiches are classic Rio de Janeiro beach fare, while his impeccably grilled jerk chicken offers an unexpected taste of Jamaica. Don't miss the *feijoada*, a black-bean stew that is Brazil's national dish — for good reason, you'll conclude, after tasting Araújo's complex, savory version. The sprawling, shady outdoor patio makes for as peaceful a lunch spot as you'll find downtown. $-$$

Portal

1611 2nd Ave., Oakland, 510-663-7678. The best thing about Portal, a veggie-centric restaurant and beer garden a stone's throw from Oakland's Lake Merritt, is its casual air — how the lovely back patio evokes lazy summer evenings spent hanging out on a friend's backyard deck, nursing cold beers and snacking on plates of munchies. On busy nights the service can be spotty and the portion sizes don't always offer the best bang for your buck. But aside from the setting, Portal's chief virtue is the wholesomeness of its locally sourced and (mostly) organic, vegetable-heavy pub grub — a welcome change for vegetarians tired of going to bars where the only thing they can eat is (maybe) the fries. Standouts include the homemade pasta and the "garbage bread" (a doughy riff on stromboli), both of which vary depending on what's in season. $$-$$$

Oriental BBQ Chicken Town

6101 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-595-9198. Though OB Town (as regulars call this popular Korean pub) looks a lot like a tiki bar inside — plastic tables, paper lanterns, an indoor "roof" — you'll find nary a Mai Tai on the menu. Instead, comically oversize plastic bottles of Korean beer and fruity soju cocktails are the drinks of choice. As for food, it's no surprise that chicken is the star — thirteen different versions, including several takes on the fiery-crisp double-fried chicken that Koreans are famous for. For maximal crunch, order the standard batter-fried chicken; for a saucier experience, go for the deliciously gooey [illegible] garlic marinated Gan Jung. Other crowd-pleasers include extremely garlicky garlic fries and *ramen ddeok bok ki*, a street dish that consists of rice cake sticks, instant ramen, tofu triangles, and a hard-boiled egg — all swimming in a bright-red sweet-and-spicy sauce. $$

Kang Tong Dogi

3702 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-658-2998. First off, good luck finding the place — there's no English sign, and the building's dingy exterior belies the fact that there's a restaurant inside. (Look for "Big Daddy's" next door.) Even more than Oakland's other Korean pubs, or *sulju bangs*, Kang Tong Dogi has the feel of a secret club. But the humble dishes served here are well worth seeking out. There are marinated chicken gizzards, grilled to chewy-crunchy perfection. There's "cheese corn," corn kernels cooked in mayo and condensed milk — a weird but delicious thing, halfway between a stoner's snack and a dessert. But the pièce de résistance is the spicy ham-and-noodle stew, which Koreans know as *budae jjigae* or "army stew": a pot of savory gochujang (red pepper paste)-spiked broth filled with every imaginable thing: tofu, kimchi, rice cakes, instant ramen, Spam, hot dogs. Nothing's more comforting on a cold night. $$

Dan Sung Sa

2775 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-663-3977. Dan Sung Sa, aka "Porno Palace," is the most well known, and maybe the most raucous, Korean pub (or *sulju bang*) in Oakland. No porn is involved — the restaurant is actually named after an old movie theatre in Seoul, hence the (non-pornographic) movie posters plastered everywhere. You can, however, order "Porno Point," a fearsomely hot chili dish topped with spicy pork. The menu is heavy on street snacks, but you can also order the same dishes you'd find at other Korean restaurants: barbecued meats, tofu stews, and such. Among the several different kinds of fried chicken available, the whole-chicken option has awesomely crispy skin. And if you're feeling daring, try the *cheyonlle* soup: a spicy broth full of maybe a hundred crunchy, peanut-size silkworm pupae. $$

frozen fries can be limp enough to kill your buzz. Order one of the flip-flop-thin chicken sandwiches or meaty veggie burgers if you absolutely must. $

Rick & Ann's Restaurant and Catering

2922 Domingo Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-8538. Renowned for its brunch lines, this place, a frequent Best of the East Bay winner, has down-home cooking down pat. Breakfasts include a savory tofu scramble and potato-cheese pancakes; at dinner, which is slightly less consistent, diners tuck into burgers, mac 'n' cheese, vegetarian chili, a luscious chicken pot pie, and full-fledged entrées like braised short ribs with polenta. Warning: Weekend brunch attracts the kind of lines you see at amusement parks. $$

Smokehouse

3115 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-3640. If you don't know where the Smokehouse is, you must be a vegetarian recluse. It's a shack. You eat outside. The buns are fresh. The burgers are skinny — you'll want a double. The reason everyone goes to the Smokehouse is that the meat tastes as if it was actually cooked on a real grill instead of a griddle. $

Summer Kitchen Bake Shop

2944 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-981-0538. A summer spent on Martha's Vineyard inspired the look and feel of this gourmet takeaway, a labor of love for former Chez Panisse pastry chef Charlene Reis and her husband Paul Arenstam — who left a gig as executive chef at Hotel Vitale's Americano Restaurant to focus on this quaint purveyor of fancy-restaurant-quality meals meant to be eaten elsewhere. Menus change monthly but always include meal entrées, pasta, pizza, salads, sandwiches, and side dishes. Picnic provisions include fried Fulton Valley chicken and grass-fed Hearst Ranch meatballs. Topping it off is Blue Bottle coffee and unapologetically indulgent desserts such as chocolate-caramel tarts and lemon-meringue cupcakes. $$

The Vault Cafe & Restaurant

2145 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-995-9610. This sunny restaurant dishes up healthy, hearty breakfast and lunch fare that's a cut above. The chef gives only a few nods to contemporary California cuisine — garlic-basil spread on the burgers, an eggplant and zucchini sandwich, a selection of fruit smoothies. But the West Coast influence shines through in the clean flavors, fresh ingredients, and food that's light on grease. $-$$

Price Key

Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately: $ — up to $10 per person; $$ — $10-$25; $$$ — $25-$50; $$$$ — more than $50

People groaned and heckled while watching the presidential debate Ellen Cushing

LAST CALL

CAPACITY BUILDING

Watching the presidential debate at Awaken Café

By Ellen Cushing

Awaken Café's official capacity is 49 people, so maybe let's not tell the fire marshal about Monday, October 22. That's when the cafe's owners cleared the tables and set up folding chairs, and let anyone who felt like coming by to watch the presidential debate. ("It's more fun to hear the reactions," mused owner/very nice guy Cartl Dunlap afterward, noting that attendance on all four debate nights had been good.) Suffice it to say that quite a few people felt like coming by, and also that it's a good thing all of them were good sports and many of them were ardent.

Awaken Café
1429 Broadway
Oakland
510-863-1440 or AwakenCafe.com
Hours: Sun.-Thu. 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 7:30 p.m.-midnight

Other aspects of Awaken's official capacity, per its website: that of "a green award-winning espresso bar, tea house, boutique ice-creamery (coming this summer), beer & wine bar, performance & event space, and art gallery in the heart of the new downtown Oakland." The beers and coffee are local, the art on the walls appears, at least right now, to be bird-themed, the design is airy, earth-toned, and contemporary; the chandelier and their sundry electronics are attractive and slim. And the mission is, abstractly/ambitiously/stylishly downcapped-ly, to "bring people together, launch movements." There are things that could prompt an irrevocable slide toward cafe-cliché preciousness, but Awaken Café is saved by a certain heart-melting earnestness and a unique ability to truly back up all the "community" talk. After losing the lease on the cafe's first incarnation — a cozy, much-smaller place a few blocks away on 14th Street — Dunlap successfully solicited the community for donations that would go toward building a new space. And during the May Day general strike, Dunlap and his staff decided, after much agonizing, to stay open — partially as a show of small-business pride, partly as a means of providing snacks/much-needed booze/wi-fi to Occupiers and observers — and to donate the day's profits to local charities. This is a place that works hard to do things right. Also, any cafe that has the good sense to serve booze — ten wines, eleven beers, and one hard cider — is probably worth supporting.

Last Monday, no movements — metaphorical or really physical, given the crowd — appeared to be being launched, but the people had demonstrably been brought together: groaning, heckling, clapping, commenting; sitting cramped on couches and cross-legged on the floor and squeezed into corners of a too-crowded room, damp and sticky from the storm outside; choosing to be together when they could more comfortably be alone. A phalanx of laptop-users perched at the bar tapped away on Twitter, glancing up only occasionally. An older man took copious handwritten notes on a yellow legal pad with one hand and sipped a glass of red with the other. Couples discreetly held hands and strangers made eye contact in that knowing way you do when you're experiencing an event of national import surrounded by people you can safely assume are like-minded. Someone brought a baby, but nobody seemed pissed about it. The bartenders stole sidelong glances between pulling beers and collecting glasses, and the groans/heckles/claps/commentary grew louder and the beers were consumed with a celebratory rapidity. Dunlap flitted around, rescuing empty pitchers and fiddling with cords. At one point, someone near the back blurted out an unexpectedly loud "fuck this guy!" — like you would in your own home, or maybe just like you would when you're a couple glasses of wine in, smooshed up next to friends and strangers in a place that feels familiar, even if it isn't. Everyone laughed. ●

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

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FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Beer Garden With local craft beer, [illegible] grande sausages, [illegible] vintage cars, art, and more. Saturdays, 2-8 p.m. free. Classic Cars West, 411 26th St., Oakland, 415-826-1235, ClassicCarsWest.com.

Bocanova's El Día de los Muertos Oakland. Featuring a five-course dinner, Mexican prestige cocktails, and wines from Heintz Vineyards. Thu., Nov. 1, 7 p.m., $68. Bocanova, 55 Webster St., Oakland, 510-444-1233, Bocanova.com.

Chocolate Inspired An expert from Blue Bottle Coffee hosts a pairing of all single-origin [illegible] Oakland, at Awaken. First Friday of every month, noon, free. Awaken Cafe, 1429 Broadway, [illegible] 510-860-1440, AwakenCafe.com.

Day of the Dead Party at Cosecha Cafe includes a traditional Mexican Fiesta, wine, and a presentation on the significance of Day of the Dead. Guests are invited to bring photos or mementos of their loved ones to display on the altar, designed by local artists. Fri., Nov. 2, 7-10 p.m., $55. Cosecha Mexican Cafe, 907 Washington St., Oakland, 510-452-5900, CosechaCafe.com.

Dinner to Dye For An Restorant workshop where participants will be served dinner and learn how to use the food byproducts from the meal (onion skins, Hanson pits, carrot tops, etc.) to dye fabrics. Sun., Nov. 4, 6 p.m. TBD. Oakland Gallery, 4410 40th St., Oakland, InteriorsArtGallery.com.

Farmstead Wine Tasting Hosted by Farmstead's knowledgeable staff, with 1 percent going to local schools. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m.; Saturdays, 2-5 p.m. $1 per flight. Farmstead Cheeses & Wines, 5616 La Salle Ave., Oakland, 510-864-0463, FarmsteadCheesesandWines.com.

Focus on Fermentation [illegible] Oakland, bringing you to the basics of fermentation including dairy free cheese and yogurts, sauerkraut, kombucha, and vegan kefir. Weekend breakfast and lunch. Contact Chef Heather Haxo Phillips for registration and location details, heather@[illegible]press.com. Sat., Nov. 3, 10 a.m., $85.

Food Play Fresh Approach hosts a hands-on cooking class using fresh Mangoes. First Sunday of every month, 11, 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m., free. [illegible] ingPCFMA.com. Jack London Square Farmer's Market, Broadway and Embarcadero, Oakland.

Phat Beets Crop Swap A swap of backyard eggs, produce, and other food items. First Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-[illegible]-3080, PhatBeetsProduce.org.

Street Eats/Tuesdays With food truck-inspired small plates served in a restaurant setting. Tuesdays, $5-$8, 800-557-7268, Paragon Restaurant, 43 Claremont Rd., Berkeley, 510-549-8000, ParagonRestaurant.net.

Vintage Berkeley Times Tastings Try free wines for $5 at both the Vine St. and College Ave. stores. Check their Facebook event in the day for details on what Rotation will be poured that day. Thursdays, 5-8 p.m. $5. Vintage Berkeley, 2113 Vine St., Berkeley, 510-665-8600.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus family activities. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Oakland.

BART Farm Fresh Choice Community Oakland Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m., free. 510-848-1704, EcologyCenter.org. Bay Area Hispano Institute for Advancement, 1718 Eighth St., Berkeley, 510-525-1463, BAHIA-Inc.com.

Bayfair Market Oakland, Market Fresh produce supplied by local organic and specialty farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-357-6000, ShopBayfair.com.

BYA Farm Fresh Market Community Oakland Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Free. 510-848-1704, EcologyCenter.org. Berkeley Youth Alternatives, 1255 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-845-9066, BYA-online.org.

Oakland/Albany Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m. free. 510-848-1704, EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St., Berkeley, 510-981-5140, CI.Berkeley.CA.US.

Oakland Farmers' Market With locally grown and processed fruit, vegetables, bread products, and more. Accepts WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-535-0970, Fruitvale Village, 3401 E. 12th St. (at Fruitvale BART), Oakland, 510-534-0900, UnityCouncil.org.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market The weekly stands hosts more than 70 Oakland, prepared foods, and arts and crafts vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 800-897-3276, SplashPad[illegible]. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland, 510-238-7275, OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/Default.asp.

Hayward Day Hall Farmers' Market A farmers' Market featuring locally grown and produced foods from more than 35 Market and specialty food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-897-3276, AgricultureInstitute.org. Hayward City Hall, 777 B St., Hayward, 510-583-4000.

[illegible] Co-Op.

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market With vendors selling locally grown California produce at the main entrance to the hospital. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With vendors selling fresh, all-organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Oakland, 3600 Howe St., Oakland.

Kensington Oakland Market With a nursery, fresh flowers, an organic chocolatier, and produce, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, butters, bread, fillings, fresh pasta, and seasonal surprises. The Market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-847-8991, Kensington[illegible].org. Colusa Circle, at the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Laurel District Farmers' Market With certified organic produce from J&P Organic Farm and a youth-led prepared food Youth Cafe, The Purple Lace Cafe. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 510-488-1800, FoodCommunityCulture.org. Laurel District Farmers' Market, 4100 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Montclair Village Farmers' Market Featuring organic produce and prepared foods. Free parking in Village garage to the top of La Salle Avenue, Berkeley, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. free. MontclairVillage.com/farmers_market.html. Downtown Montclair Village, LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With Adeline specialty foods, all-organic produce, and more for sale, along with special programs and stands. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

North Oakland, Berkeley Farmers' Market EBT and WIC okay. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. free. 510-250-2851, PhatBeetsProduce.org. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

North Oakland, Phat Beets Farmers' Market With a healthy cafe and commercial kitchen space, seasonal organic produce from Bay Area farms, and free baked goods. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. PhatBeetsProduce.org. Phat Beets [illegible] Farmers' Market, 5942 Oakland Ave., Oakland.

Oakland Community Oakland Stand With organic local produce, free samples, and cooking demonstrations. Wednesdays, 2-5:30 p.m., through June 26. free. St. Martin de Porres School, 675 41st St., Oakland, 510-[illegible], STAND.org.

Old Oakland Farmers' Market Features Oakland, prepared foods, arts and other regional foods, along with plenty of prepared. Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., and Old Oakland Farmers' Market, 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St., Oakland. UrbanVillageOnline.com/markets/old-oakland.

Pacific Coast Jack London Square Farmers' Market With seasonal produce, organic nuts, freshly baked bread, pastries, cut flowers, prepared foods, yoga, kids' live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Jack London Square, 98 Broadway, Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With eggs, locally grown fruit, live chickens, Hmong eggs, and other produce. WIC and SNAP accepted. Fridays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. free. RichmondFarmersMarket.org. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Richmond Main Street Farmers' Market With fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, flowers, and a range of other agricultural and culinary products from Bay Area farmers. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-236-4050, RichmondMainStreet.org. Nevin Plaza, 13th Street and Nevin Avenue, Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-981-5850, CI.Berkeley.ca.us.

South Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh produce and other food for sale. Tuesdays, 2-6:30 p.m. South Berkeley Market, Adeline and 63rd sts., Berkeley, 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org.

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PICK

Le Truc Grand Opening

The last that we r[illegible] gourmet food truck le truc will be a full-time fixture in the 40,000-square-foot former airplane hangar that Rock Wall Winery (2301 Monarch St., Alameda) calls home. At a grand opening on Friday, Nov. 2, check out the newly redesigned deck and dome while sipping Rock Wall wines paired with le truc's "restaurant" classics, such as Thai curry pulled-pork belly tacos, black-bean burgers, and turkey meatballs with Cabernet marinara. 7 p.m., $20. 510-522-5700 or RockWallWines.com. — *Anneli Rufus*

TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL

A lonely man goes looking for love (*The Sessions*), and so do a couple of mixed-up tourists (*The Loneliest Planet*)

By Kelly Vance

John Hawkes plays Berkeley author Mark O'Brien in *The Sessions*. Helen Hunt plays Cheryl, his real-life savior

A man in his thirties who has spent his adult life flat on his back in an iron lung and has never had a sexual experience decides to attempt intercourse with a paid therapist. But first the man, a devout Catholic, consults with his parish priest about the morality of it. Just the thing for a lighthearted romantic night at the movies, right?

And when we factor in that the disabled man in question, based on late Berkeley writer Mark O'Brien, is played by John Hawkes — the actor whose portrayals of a meth addict in *Winter's Bone* and a sinister cult leader in *Martha Marcy May Marlene* sent chills down the spines of movie audiences — we have to assume that this film has all the makings of the biggest bummer of the season, or at best a well-meaning-but-mawkish item from the liberal guilt file.

We'd be wrong, of course. Writer-director Ben Lewin's *The Sessions* happens to be a funny, sexy, and unabashedly life-affirming character study, a romantic drama that does all the right things with its touchy ingredients. The trick is in the casting: Hawkes as polio survivor O'Brien, researching a book on disabled sex and also seriously curious; Helen Hunt in the key role of a professional sexual surrogate named Cheryl with issues of her own (read an interview with the real-life Cheryl on page 24); and William H. Macy as Mark's spiritual counselor, Father Brendan. Thanks to Lewin's bright dialogue, this acting trio lifts a potentially dismal social-problem vignette to rarefied heights. It's a feel-gooder no one has to be ashamed to admit they enjoyed, sparkling with unexpected personality.

Paralyzed from the neck down, Mark nonetheless possesses the gift of gab. How else could he joke his way into the confidences of so many people whose main reaction to him otherwise would be pity and nothing more? Activists have reportedly criticized the filmmakers and Hawkes, the gripe being that a disabled actor should have gotten the role. Their point is valid but slim — few actors, disabled or not, could have done what Hawkes does with little else than line readings and facial gestures. Mark O'Brien comes across as one of the most charming movie characters in recent memory, alternating between self-deprecating wisecracks about his condition and lack of experience, and flat-out panic on the doorstep of doing the deed. He actually manages to restore a sense of mystery to the sex act. That alone qualifies as a triumph.

The expression on Father Brendan's face and his quizzical relationship with Mark — half confessor and half conspirator — are tempered with the unspoken understanding that their partnership is a variation on the blind leading the blind: two male virgins trying to make a moral case for satisfying sexual urges, for the solace of a restless soul. In all Macy's fine work for playwright David Mamet on stage and screen, it's unlikely that he has ever played a character on such a purely academic quest.

And then there's Hunt's Cheryl, without whom the tale makes no sense. More often than not in her film career, Hunt has played difficult-to-admire characters, variations on the theme of selfishness, but her caregiver Cheryl is different — neither a saint nor a whore with a heart of gold, but a woman willing to assume a persona, a sort of Freudian priestess of the temple of the body. Naturally she's conflicted when Mark wants the relationship to progress to the next stage. And just as naturally she makes it known that her role is facilitator, not lover. As with the two men, Cheryl's complicated personality assumes a larger role thanks to Lewin's expansive writing. That noted, Ms. Hunt's 49-year-old body (she does not use a body double) is a marvel of nature in its own right.

Filmmaker Lewin, a native of Poland who has worked in Australia, the UK, and Hollywood, primarily in the comedy vein on TV (*Ally McBeal*, *Touched by an Angel*), hits the high notes with ease in *The Sessions*. He's never had talent like Hawkes, Hunt, and Macy as his instruments before, and he makes the best of them. And the idea of Berkeley in the Nineties or whenever has never seemed sweeter.

The true story behind *The Sessions* originally appeared as a first-person feature by O'Brien, "On Seeing a Sex Surrogate," which was published in 1990 in *The Sun*. A few of us at the *Express* believe that O'Brien's story may have been published around the same time (perhaps even first) in these pages — but because there exist no digital files of our stories before 2001, that's open to question. Anyone in the *East Bay Express* community who has info on the provenance of the story is invited to send it to the email address at the end of this review.

Julia Loktev's *The Loneliest Planet* puts us in mind of Kelly Reichardt's *Meek's Cutoff*, another movie featuring long scenes of taciturn, preoccupied characters "rambling" through the wilderness. But the similarity ends there.

The trek through the ominous Caucasus Mountains by tourists Alex (Gael García Bernal) and Nica (Hani Furstenberg) and their gruff local guide, Dato (real-life mountaineer Bidzina Gujabidze) has more to do with primal male-female relations and the mysterious mechanism of fight-or-flight than with quixotic searches for overland routes to the ocean. For some reason the two innocent foreigners choose Georgia — the former Soviet republic where everyone carries a rifle and subtexts have a way of coming to the surface with alarming suddenness — for their romantic getaway, but now they're beginning to regret it. Alex and Nica behave as if they don't have a care in the world, but they forget that they're in a part of the world where you cannot afford to be careless. They didn't do their homework.

New York-based Ms. Loktev, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, shies away from *Deliverance*-style overt weirdness, but we feel it all around the two tenderfeet as they slip on rocks and misunderstand the landscape as well as its inhabitants. Even though the stresses that pull on their relationship are tiny and mostly below the surface, they run deep. Nothing hurts quite as much as self-doubt, and *The Loneliest Planet* is carpeted in it. It's a tough film to love, but it rewards close attention with candor. ■

Kelly.Vance@EastBayExpress.com

The Sessions

Written for the screen and directed by Ben Lewin. With John Hawkes and Helen Hunt. Opens Friday.

The Loneliest Planet

Written and directed by Julia Loktev. With Gael García Bernal and Hani Furstenberg. Opens Friday.

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by J.R. Jones (J.J.), Ben Sachs (B.S.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to El Jen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

OPENING

The Flat Israeli filmmaker Arnon Goldfinger's Holocaust documentary delves intriguingly into his own personal family mysteries. In cleaning out the Tel Aviv apartment where his departed grandparents lived, Goldfinger discovers that both of them — intellectual German-Jewish refugees who moved to Israel after WWII — had a strange, disturbingly warm relationship with a notorious Nazi official, a high-ranking SS officer who preceded Adolf Eichmann in the Nazis' "Jewish Affairs" office and had visited Palestine before the war. A grim, surprising story indeed, and one that demonstrates the notion of an unbearable reality [illegible] its past wants to stay buried. The Israeli-German production is written and directed by Goldfinger. (97 min.) (K.V.)

Flight Even though the first part of it contains one of the all-time airliner-in-trouble sequences, this drama mostly concerns itself with the phenomenon of the addictive personality — alcohol-and-cocaine enthusiast Whip Whitaker, pilot of the plane in question (Denzel Washington), and Nicole (Kelly Reilly), the hard-luck heroin user he meets when they grab a cigarette together in a hospital stairwell. Both their performances are of the solid gold variety, even when screenwriter John Gatins' social-problem mechanism kicks into high gear in the second half. That [illegible] is the price we have to pay for one of Washington's strongest star turns, [illegible] editorializing by Robert Zemeckis (in his first live-action film since 2000's *Cast Away*). Don Cheadle, John Goodman, Melissa Leo, and Brian Geraghty lend vivid support as, respectively, a lawyer, a one-man pharmacy, a federal official, and Whip's straight-arrow copilot. A rich tapestry of early-21st-century America, for warts or worse. (142 min.) (K.V.)

The Loneliest Planet A pair of naive [illegible] Western [illegible] (played by Gael García Bernal and Hani Furstenberg) travel in the Georgian Caucasus Mountains, just for fun, and hire a surly local guide (real-life mountaineer [illegible] Gujabidze) to accompany them on an arduous trek through the wilderness. Do they get their throats slit? Or do they find their love is [illegible]? [illegible] Julia Loktev, a Russian native now working in the US, entertains all manner of possibilities as Alex, Nica, and their [illegible] Roughly reminiscent of Kelly Reichardt's *Meek's Cutoff* in its exploration of the perilous implications of [illegible], Loktev's [illegible] character study is marinated in self-doubt. It's a tough film to love, but rewards close attention. (113 min.) (K.V.)

The Man With the Iron Fists RZA (yes, that RZA, of Wu-Tang fame) makes his directorial debut with [illegible] about a [illegible] of soldiers and assassins who invade a rural Chinese village on the hunt for gold. Written by RZA and Eli Roth. Starring Lucy Liu, Russell Crowe, and Cung Le. (95 min.)

The Other Son [illegible] two [illegible] families — one Jewish, one Palestinian — make a startling discovery: Their eighteen-year-old sons were switched at birth when the hospital evacuated babies during an air raid in 1991. For each parent it's the stresses of the unthinkable, for different reasons, and for Joseph (Jules Sitruk), a musician preparing to join the Israeli army, and Yacine (Mehdi Dehbi), a [illegible] student in Paris, it's a life-changing revelation. Writer-director Lorraine Levy handles the explosive story with just the right touch. It's a [illegible] drama, superbly [illegible] and well acted by its cast. [illegible] the Prince and the Pauper theme, each young man [illegible] the other side. In French, Hebrew, Arabic, and English. (110 min.) (K.V.)

The Sessions John Hawkes, Helen Hunt, and William H. Macy combine to turn a potentially weepy/grotesque story into a revelation, genuinely reassuring drama about making the best of an un-

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com or by scanning the code below [illegible] Hawkes portrays Mark O'Brien, a thirtyish paralyzed man who hires a professional sexual surrogate (Hunt) to give him his first [illegible] experience, on the advice of his [illegible] counselor, a Roman Catholic priest (Macy). Not exactly the most appetizing premise in outline, but the playing of the three principals, armed with witty dialogue by actor-director Ben Lewin (a longtime TV hand) turns it into one of the [illegible] imaginable. Set in Berkeley and [illegible] on true [illegible] (95 min.) (K.V.)

The Bay [illegible] Barry Levinson (Man of the Year, Wag the Dog) [illegible] the [illegible] who [illegible] part [illegible], part [illegible], with Blair Witch stylings [illegible] about a [illegible] Chesapeake Bay [illegible] Maryland [illegible] "TV coverage" device [illegible] but when the fast-moving [illegible] from [illegible] to humans and [illegible] Maryland [illegible] willing to go along for the ride. The point seems to be that [illegible] in the case of a poultry plant [illegible] and that the federal government [illegible] covering up [illegible] the affected. Starring [illegible] and Kristen Connolly. (85 min.) (K.V.)

Wreck-It Ralph Disney's big [illegible] holiday [illegible] video-game [illegible] by Rich Moore [illegible] by Jennifer Lee and Phil [illegible] the voices of John C. Reilly, Jane [illegible] Silverman. (108 min.)

ONGOING

Alex Cross Tyler Perry plays a [illegible] who is [illegible] a family member's killer. Directed by Rob Cohen, adapted by [illegible] and Kerry Williamson from James Patterson's novel Cross. Also starring Tyler Perry. (101 min.)

All Together French-language comedy following a group of senior [illegible] who [illegible] together. [illegible] and [illegible] Stéphane [illegible], starring [illegible] and [illegible] Chaplin. (96 min.)

Arbitrage Arbitrage opens on a warm family scene: [illegible] hedge-fund manager [illegible] (Richard Gere) [illegible] a birthday dinner with his wife and [illegible] in the love of his family and the [illegible] of the company. It's an [illegible] vision of the good life [illegible] and [illegible] quickly revealed when Robert [illegible] off [illegible] with his [illegible] French [illegible] Robert's business dealings are as shady as his [illegible] and [illegible] Robert's good-guy [illegible] a young [illegible] in his crimes. It [illegible] view that Robert's only loyalty is to his money. Both parade are the worst. Arbitrage is as [illegible] as [illegible] with a set of [illegible] every plot point [illegible] real-world [illegible] There's not a [illegible] of ambiguity in [illegible] here — the [illegible] is simply that cause and effect [illegible] differently for rich people. Money [illegible] justifies all of Robert's actions and insulates him from their consequences. Arbitrage's [illegible] maddening, certainly, but also hard to recommend unless for some reason you're trying to [illegible] your cynicism. (107 min.)

Argo Ben Affleck [illegible] that we needed to [illegible] the 1979-80 US Embassy hostage [illegible] actor-director Affleck, who [illegible] as a resourceful CIA [illegible] who [illegible] plan — to rescue six [illegible] Embassy [illegible] who [illegible] Islamic revolutionaries in Tehran, and [illegible] to smuggle the six out of the country [illegible] as a Hollywood film crew scouting locations for a [illegible] sci-fi movie [illegible] Argo [illegible] Terrio's screenplay (adapted from [illegible] magazine article) [illegible] a superficial resemblance to the [illegible] situations in Charlie Wilson's War, but with [illegible] of the [illegible] and we're left with a [illegible] against the clock. The [illegible] work by John Goodman and Alan Arkin [illegible] movie producers [illegible] the [illegible] is forced to take a back-[illegible] to the national security [illegible] (120 min.) (K.V.)

Beasts of the Southern Wild It has the [illegible] of a dream: this wondrous [illegible] family story by [illegible] Benh Zeitlin. Six-year-old Hushpuppy (played [illegible] by first-timer Quvenzhané Wallis) and her [illegible] father Wink (Dwight Henry) [illegible] in a [illegible] Gulf Coast [illegible] village [illegible] the Bathtub [illegible] by colorful [illegible] neighbors and [illegible] in Hushpuppy's case by [illegible] of [illegible] big changes are coming. [illegible] adapted by Zeitlin and Lucy Alibar from the latter's stage play Juicy & [illegible] tale on the [illegible] of a fairy tale, a child's point of view of a [illegible] even the [illegible] and [illegible]. The character [illegible] perfectly [illegible], and the music score by Zeitlin and [illegible] is superb. A one-of-a-kind experience. (91 min.) (K.V.)

Chasing Mavericks Ultra-poetic [illegible] starring [illegible] legend [illegible] the true story of Santa Cruz big-wave phenom Jay Moriarity (Jonny [illegible]) [illegible] Weston), his [illegible] Frosty [illegible] (Gerard Butler) and their [illegible] to get Jay ready for El Niño [illegible] of the [illegible] beach. Quite simply, one of the very finest [illegible]. Fine-toned performances by the [illegible] plus [illegible] Elisabeth Shue, [illegible], and [illegible] and Kario Salem's screenplay [illegible] story by Jim Meaghan and [illegible] Hanson [illegible] to go with the [illegible] by veterans Michael Apted (the 7 Up series) and Curtis Hanson (8 Mile, L.A. Confidential). Worth seeing twice for the hair-raising [illegible] footage. (107 min.)

Cloud Atlas [illegible] Tom Tykwer, Lana Wachowski, and Andy Wachowski [illegible] imaginative set of [illegible] David Mitchell's [illegible] novel [illegible] time-traveling [illegible] and the result is [illegible] spanning five [illegible] just the right [illegible] and [illegible] (Jim Sturgess, [illegible] Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Jim Broadbent, the [illegible] Hugo Weaving, Hugh Grant, Ben Whishaw, Susan Sarandon, Keith [illegible], James D'Arcy) [illegible] through-story that [illegible] as we weave our way from [illegible] New Zealand to post-apocalyptic [illegible] Relax. [illegible] the [illegible] you. You'll be happy you did. (172 min.) (K.V.)

Detropia Documentary [illegible] Detroit's challenges and opportunities in the wake of the automobile industry's crash. [illegible] by [illegible] Ewing and Rachel Grady.

Frankenweenie If we had to [illegible] "typical" Tim Burton [illegible] of the term, the black-and-white [illegible] fantasy [illegible] his dead pet dog — an [illegible] and expansion of a 1984 Burton short [illegible] The misadventures of young Victor Frankenstein, his [illegible] and [illegible] the local [illegible] a combination of [illegible] and humor that's a hundred [illegible] more [illegible] than a live-action version could ever be. The creature puppet work by Ian Mackinnon and Peter [illegible] is exemplary. John August's [illegible] (story by Burton and Leonard Ripps) [illegible] the [illegible] spirit of Bride of Frankenstein [illegible] Starring the voices of Catherine O'Hara, Martin Short, Martin Landau, Winona Ryder, [illegible] (Ike Peter-Lars-Ish Edgar), and Charlie Tahan as Victor. Everything the [illegible] "family horror" [illegible] (87 min.) (K.V.)

Fun Size [illegible] in the town of a pretty [illegible] named Wren (Victoria Justice), who [illegible] of [illegible] to help her find the [illegible] Halloween night in Cleveland. [illegible] (The Colbert Report) [illegible] in Wren's [illegible] neighborhood. The [illegible] Wren's single [illegible] (Chelsea Handler) [illegible] party [illegible] with her [illegible] younger boyfriend, and the [illegible] of the [illegible] of Wren's friend Roosevelt (Thomas Mann) [illegible] a giant [illegible] a Volvo [illegible] wagon. Directed [illegible] by TV guy Josh Schwartz. (86 min.) (K.V.)

Here Comes the Boom Kevin James [illegible] as a washed-up [illegible] teacher who becomes a mixed-martial [illegible] to raise money for his [illegible] by Frank Coraci [illegible] Also starring Salma Hayek and Greg Germann. (105 min.)

Hotel Transylvania It's a resort for monsters, far away from their enemies, the humans, the owner is Dracula (voice of Adam Sandler), whose [illegible] 118-year-old daughter Mavis (Selena Gomez) [illegible] a vampire [illegible] becomes [illegible] with a [illegible] Jonathan (Andy Samberg) who [illegible] and is [illegible] to masquerade as a creature to avoid being found. The [illegible] produced [illegible] comedy's [illegible] is [illegible] the living and the living dead [illegible] can meet and fall in love. [illegible] the [illegible] were obviously [illegible] by the work of Tim Burton [illegible] Lame [illegible] and [illegible] jokes for the kids, and [illegible] a [illegible] for the grownups. Perfectly [illegible] by veteran TV hand Genndy Tartakovsky [illegible] story and screenplay [illegible] (92 min.) (K.V.)

The House I Live In Eugene Jarecki [illegible] of the [illegible] Freakonomics, Why We Fight, and The Trials of Henry Kissinger, tackles the [illegible] history of the US government's [illegible] War on Drugs. It is a monumentally depressing failure. The [illegible] "Since 1971, the War on Drugs has [illegible] over [illegible] and [illegible] more than 45 [illegible] arrests." [illegible] Illegal drug use has [illegible] unchanged. This is one "outrage doc" with a lot less than the usual hopeful [illegible] in the last reel. Jarecki's parade of experts and eyewitnesses [illegible] judges, [illegible] officials, [illegible] — is impressive, as are the experience that [illegible] prejudice [illegible] the policing efforts of America's drug warriors. And yet Jarecki's tone is [illegible] never agitated. (108 min.) (K.V.)

The Intouchables Take the [illegible] of Driving Miss Daisy and [illegible] to contemporary Paris.

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SAM POLLARD IN PERSON

Meet Sam Pollard, who joins us from New York to discuss his four decades editing, producing, and directing key films about the African American experience.

THU / NOV 1 / 7:00
Sam Pollard on Film Editing
Pollard takes us behind-the-scenes of film editing using clips from from narrative and documentary films.
Followed by
Mo' Better Blues (Spike Lee, 1990)
A "fiery, original and moving film" (Village Voice) starring a young Denzel Washington as a jazz trumpeter and Spike Lee as his manager.

SAT / NOV 3 / 8:15
Style Wars (Tony Silver, 1984)
[illegible] by Sam Pollard
An early exploration of graffiti and hip-hop culture in New York, which has been called "a training manual in how to edit and make a great documentary."

The information on Sam Pollard's Behind the Scenes workshop at the San Francisco Film Society on November 2, please go to sffs.org

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Behind the Scenes is a collaboration between BAM/PFA and the San Francisco Film Society. Major support is [illegible] by the National Endowment for the Arts. The [illegible] made possible in part by the [illegible] of the BAM/PFA [illegible]

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Change Miss Daisy [illegible]: a rich, quadriplegic white man (François Cluzet) [illegible] into a tough African immigrant from the housing projects (Omar Sy). Voilà [illegible]. The heart-tugging French comic character study is actually funny and well constructed. As predictable and corny as it might seem, the rapprochement between the cautious millionaire and the [illegible] performances from both [illegible] Cluzet and [illegible] up-and-comer Sy, who won a César for Best Actor for his role. And the screenplay by the writing-directing team of [illegible] Nakache and Eric Toledano [illegible]. So it's based on a true story? Who cares? Everything [illegible], even the [illegible] Anne le Ny, Audrey Fleurot, et al. (112 min.) (K.V.)

Looper [illegible] a time-travel/noir [illegible]. It's crazy smart, but [illegible] you won't spend [illegible] trying to glue together its logic. You'll just be enjoying the movie. Because all you need to know to enjoy *Looper* is that actions have consequences [illegible] an action movie. But *Looper* is "just" an action [illegible] the same way *Brick* was "just" a noir, or *The Brothers Bloom* was "just" a heist flick. All three were written and directed by Rian Johnson, and with each, [illegible] appropriates the [illegible] of a genre, then [illegible] out in astonishingly [illegible] ways. (118 min.) [illegible]

The Master At the end of World War II, Navy veteran Freddie Quell (Joaquin Phoenix) is an [illegible] who makes his own hooch out of paint-thinner, and [illegible]. He's also vengeful, hypersexual, and perhaps (or perhaps not) an involuntary murderer. Something [illegible] to give, and so meets Lancaster Dodd (played by Philip Seymour Hoffman), the "master" of a [illegible] religion/self-help cult called "The Cause" (played by Scientology). For Dodd, Quell is the perfect guinea pig: an "animal" who, once his "ancient" [illegible], is revealed through hard study and psychological torture, will hopefully graduate to a higher order of human — the human we were created to be. One is tempted to [illegible] approach *The Master* as the character counterpart to a juicy [illegible]. Fair [illegible] — but upon viewing, one quickly [illegible] that [illegible] is [illegible] far more [illegible] than [illegible] upon a [illegible]. *The Master* is a gorgeously filmed rumination on human need: the need to be self-aware, the need to be [illegible], the need to be loved. As much as [illegible] Quell [illegible] to make peace with his past, Dodd needs to be accepted, [illegible] and appreciated for what he [illegible] to the [illegible] of the human species. In the end, what each of these characters [illegible] humanity [illegible] than any one man could ever hope to accomplish. (137 min.)

Middle of Nowhere A quiet, thoughtful Los Angeles nurse named Ruby Murray (the extraordinarily beautiful Emayatzy Corinealdi) tries very hard to keep a light in the window for her [illegible] husband Derek (Omari Hardwick) in this [illegible] deep character study by [illegible] Ava DuVernay. Ruby's [illegible] to live a decent, single life without her man [illegible] and yet the performances — by the principal players plus [illegible] David Oyelowo, Edwina Findley, and Lorraine Toussaint — accumulate a power that lifts the drama to the heights of the real-life category. Written and directed by DuVernay, who also wrote *I Will Follow*. (101 min.) (K.V.)

Nobody Walks An [illegible] Manhattan [illegible] of an artist (Olivia Thirlby) arrives in Los Angeles to finish her latest project in the home studio of a Hollywood sound engineer (John Krasinski) and his mixed-up family. Suddenly everybody's got [illegible] point. This nervous, languorously sour little [illegible] study by director Ry Russo-Young (*You Won't Miss Me*) and hot-property screenwriter Lena Dunham (*Tiny Furniture*) contains a surplus of bitterly funny performances, [illegible] more welcome than that of actress India Ennenga as the family's high-school-age [illegible]. Also among the horny Angelenos: Rosemarie DeWitt, Justin Kirk, and Rhys Wakefield. (82 min.) (K.V.)

The Paperboy What a bizarre tale Lee Daniels, maker of the powerful 2009 character study *Precious*, has wrought. On one level it's an appropriately [illegible] parody of drive-in exploitation flicks, set in South Florida and following John Cusack as the accused killer of the local sheriff; Matthew McConaughey and David Oyelowo as Miami newspaper reporters investigating the case; Zac Efron as the McConaughey character's slightly unhinged younger brother; and Nicole Kidman as a [illegible] slutty trial groupie. On the other hand, it may just be a sad, honest, [illegible] character [illegible], a [illegible] with [illegible] and populated by [illegible] — from [illegible] into via Pete Dexter's novel. Then again, it may be a none-too-subtle allegory on race [illegible] in the 1960s. Whatever it is, [illegible] landscape is ripe with style: playful camera, [illegible] lensing (Kidman must have [illegible] a lot of Ann-Margret DVDs), character needle-drop [illegible], etc. What does it all mean? How much time have you got? With Scott Glenn, Macon Blair, and the wonderful Macy Gray as Anita the housekeeper — also the black conscience in a story of [illegible] white trash. (101 min.) (K.V.)

Paranormal Activity 4 Fourth installment of the horror-movie franchise. This time around, following a teenager who suspects that the new kid in town isn't all that he seems. Directed by Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman; written by Christopher Landon and Chad Feehan; starring Katie Featherston, Kathryn Newton, and Matt Shively. (88 min.)

The Perks of Being a Wallflower Everyone has seen this scenario a million times. But as number one million and one, writer-director Stephen Chbosky's adolescent coming-of-age casts a certain art-drama, [illegible] spell over its protagonist, a [illegible] freshman [illegible] Charlie (Logan Lerman), a [illegible] of [illegible] sophisticates who adopt him into their clique (Ezra Miller and Emma Watson), and the usual hormone-[illegible] teens, who all [illegible] 25. The three characters have what it takes to [illegible] them around [illegible], and the [illegible] a lively "past" defined by the presence of David Bowie, [illegible], and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. It's [illegible] warm, and reassuring, if that's what we're [illegible] in the mood for. (103 min.) (K.V.)

Pitch Perfect [illegible] comedy-drama takes a college a cappella [illegible]. Directed by [illegible], written by Kay Cannon and Mickey Rapkin; starring Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow and Rebel Wilson. (112 min.)

Samsara Sublime domains, a number of ruins of various civilizations, [illegible] of humanity doing everything from manufacturing to [illegible] lines. Filmmaker Ron Fricke's [illegible] that is solidly in the *Koyaanisqatsi* mold — no real [illegible] here, except that the image-making technology has [illegible] a lot since Godfrey Reggio's [illegible] 1982 [illegible] doc. Presented in Panavision Super 70, *Samsara* [illegible] on the largest possible screen. Conclusions: 1) [illegible] are many and varied. 2) The Earth is overpopulated. 3) Life is not fair, [illegible] photographed [illegible], and co-edited by Fricke, who [illegible]. (102 min.) (K.V.)

Searching for Sugar Man Documentary [illegible] a forgotten 1970s [illegible] this, has become a [illegible] star — in contemporary South Africa, [illegible]. (86 min.)

Seven Psychopaths Martin McDonagh, the [illegible] property playwright-turned-filmmaker [illegible] written stylishly violent [illegible] *In Bruges*, [illegible] with this [illegible] predictable [illegible] a slow-witted Hollywood screenwriter (Colin Farrell) [illegible] (a wonderful Sam Rockwell), a [illegible] (Christopher Walken) [illegible] Woody Harrelson [illegible] number [illegible] played by Tom Parke, Michael Pitt, Kevin Corrigan, Abbie Cornish, Harry Dean Stanton. [illegible] of all McDonagh's [illegible] American art film [illegible] is a bit [illegible] than Quentin Tarantino imitations, and that's all it really [illegible] McDonagh's [illegible] and Brendan's spirited [illegible]. But nearly [illegible] enough to compensate for the [illegible] tough-guy [illegible]. Is the London-born, Irish-identified [illegible] ready for the Tinseltown Star [illegible]? Maybe next time. (115 min.) (K.V.)

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[illegible] narrator by [illegible] director [illegible] is also a [illegible] drama, as [illegible] with [illegible] and his family [illegible] and [illegible] after WWII in his provincial [illegible]. [illegible] more than one [illegible] actors and [illegible] the [illegible] with its [illegible] of characters. [illegible] the son of [illegible] a fine job with the [illegible] of the [illegible], alongside Stefan [illegible], Jan Josef Liefers, and [illegible] as some of [illegible] family and friends. The screenplay by [illegible], and Linda [illegible] is [illegible] from the novel by [illegible]. (122 min.) (KV)

Sinister Ethan Hawke stars as a true-crime writer [illegible] past. Directed by Scott Derrickson; written by Derrickson and C. Robert Cargill; starring Ethan Hawke, Juliet Rylance, and James Ransone. (110 min.)

Smashed Social problem pic doesn't try to [illegible] the high, and [illegible] speaking, Mary Elizabeth Winstead in [illegible] as Kate, an alcoholic, [illegible] elementary school teacher [illegible] all the [illegible] with her loving and enabling [illegible] Charlie (Aaron Paul) [illegible]. The real trouble is that almost all of the characters are emotional [illegible] — that's our screenplay challenge: director James Ponsoldt and his co-screenwriter Susan Burke [illegible] themselves, and it makes the climax all the more difficult to [illegible]. (85 min.) (KV)

Taken 2 Sequel to the 2008 [illegible] hit, this time following Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson) as his family is [illegible] hostage in Turkey. Directed by Olivier Megaton; written by Luc Besson and Robert Mark Kamen; starring [illegible], Famke Janssen, and Maggie Grace. (92 min.)

The Waiting Room Fortune-edged documentary [illegible] with the all-important local angle. It would be hard to beat the film by Peter Nicks. Told in a fly-on-the-wall cinema-vérité style, the completely absorbing film lets us observe what takes place on a regular day inside the emergency room reception area at Oakland's Highland Hospital. [illegible] from a [illegible] trying to get a free Tylenol to teenage gunshot victims dying in the midst of triage. An [illegible] moves [illegible] and limited [illegible], long, long waits, even for the hapless guy with testicular cancer or the little girl with [illegible] strep throat, and a very blurred line. The [illegible] is filled to the max, and by regulation no new patient can be [illegible] until someone [illegible]. There are enough doctors, nurses, [illegible], assistants, and [illegible] to fill a [illegible] doctors, and the one among them is the admitting [illegible] doctor: "The ER is not the place to manage someone's [illegible] 'dialogue'" as [illegible] "We keep people overnight, just as much for their [illegible] conditions as for any medical [illegible]." Recommended. (81 min.) (KV)

Wake in Fright From the untamed wilds of 1970s Australian [illegible] comes a hard-drinking [illegible] to forget [illegible] unattached Outback schoolteacher on holiday (Gary Bond) [illegible] (and what happens) [illegible] when he [illegible] lonely into a nightmarish town [illegible]. [illegible] More than one [illegible] most grisly ends in the movie, but not to worry — they were all killed by "professional" [illegible] to the scene of the [illegible] real. Canadian-British director Ted Kotcheff (North Dallas Forty, Weekend at Bernie's) [illegible] spirit to victims, [illegible] "color" [illegible] with sweaty, [illegible] support by Donald Pleasence, Chips Rafferty, and Sylvia Kay as [illegible] of "the Yabba." One of a kind. (114 min.) (KV)

Wuthering Heights Leave it to [illegible] Andrea Arnold to [illegible] Emily Brontë's English [illegible] in a [illegible] 21st century way. The tragic story of star-crossed lovers Heathcliff and Cathy, starting on the [illegible] moors, bursts from the [illegible] with maximum urgency and dark, vibrant detail in Arnold's screenplay. Along with Olivia [illegible]. The [illegible] breed of Heathcliff (played by actors Solomon Glave and James Howson as [illegible]) is a newly freed black African-[illegible] raging against the blunt cruelty and unexpected kindness of Cathy (Shannon Beer and Kaya Scodelario) and her lily-white [illegible] [illegible] (Ash [illegible]) clomps so badly through the soggy [illegible] Northern English [illegible] Arnold's dark, tempestuous, stormy version of Brontë's novel is a rough masterpiece, [illegible] not for everyone. You've got to earn it. (KV)

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Behind the Scenes: Sam Pollard on Film Editing Lecture and Q&A with Pollard. [illegible] (121 min., 1990). Behind the Scenes: The Art and Craft of Cinema with Editor Sam Pollard (PFA, 7:00)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (150 min.) National Theatre Live (Elmwood, 7:00)

Ophelia (90 min., 2012) (Grand Lake Theater, 7:00)

[illegible] (113 min., 1970) (UA Berkeley, 9:00)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Conlon Nancarrow: Virtuoso of the Player Piano (58 min., 2012). With Yoko Sugiura-Nancarrow, David Nancarrow, Dargan, and Charles Amirkhanian in person. Preceded by shorts: director on Nancarrow #2 (3:07 min., 2008) and director on Nancarrow #10 (3:18 min., 2008) (92 min. total running time). Don't Shoot the Player Piano: The Music of Conlon Nancarrow (PFA, 7:00)

Sans Soleil (100 min., 1983). At Daly's End: A Tribute to Chris Marker 1921-2012 (PFA, 9:20)

Brewer of Freedom (37 min., 2012). (David Brower Center, 7:00)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3

L'étrange Monsieur Victor (97 min., 1938). In French with English subtitles. Grand Illusions: French Cinema Classics, 1928-1951 (PFA, 6:30)

Style Wars (69 min., 1984). With introduction by Sam Pollard. Behind the Scenes: The Art and Craft of Cinema with Editor Sam Pollard (PFA, 8:45)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4

Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (95 min., 1964) (The Tommy, 7:30)

La bête humaine (105 min., 1938). In French with English subtitles. Grand Illusions: French Cinema Classics, 1928-1951 (PFA, 2:00)

Music for 1,000 Fingers: Conlon Nancarrow (85 min., 1993). With Yoko Sugiura-Nancarrow, David Nancarrow, Dargan, and Charles Amirkhanian in person. Preceded by shorts: director on Nancarrow #3C (2:55 min., 2008) and Nancarrow Player-Piano Study No. 1 (1 min., 2007) (95 min. total running time). Don't Shoot the Player Piano: The Music of Conlon Nancarrow (PFA, 4:00)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Public Speaking (84 min., 2010). Depth of Field 2012-2013 Series: Still Lives (Gabrielle Boots, 370 Stephens Hall, UC Berkeley, 7:00)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

The Wizard of Oz (101 min., 1939). Classic Movie Series (Alameda Theatre & Cineplex, time TBA)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

The [illegible] of John Smith (60 min., total running time). With John Smith in person and introduction by Craig Baldwin. Includes screening of Om (4 min., 1986), The Girl Chewing Gum (12 min., 1976), The Black Tower (23 min., 1985-87), Blight (14 min., 1996), The Kiss (5 min., 1999), Worst Case Scenario (18 min., 2001-03) and Unusual Red Cardigan (12 min., 2011). Alternative Visions (PFA, 7:00)

The Last of the Haussmans (180 min.) National Theatre Live (Cerrito, 7:00)

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THE SHATTUCK [illegible]
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THUR: 7:00, 9:45 (no ALD #3 today)
ARGO (R)
FRI-SAT-SUN: 1:15 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
MON-THUR: 4:15 7:15 9:45
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THUR: 4:30
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REVIVING (AND SURVIVING) 'EINSTEIN ON THE BEACH'

A meditation on personal myth and the power of withholding.

By Whitney Phaneuf

Watching *Einstein on the Beach* is like waking up from a lucid dream. Lucie Jansch

There is so much myth around *Einstein on the Beach* — the rarely seen opera with music by composer Philip Glass that was staged this past weekend at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall — it distracts from the work itself. These myths, passed around on opening night like programs at the door, served to reinforce why we were supposed to spend nearly five hours on a Friday night with an opera that's not really an opera and not really about Albert Einstein.

"I heard the original production was something like eight hours."

"It first played at the Met Opera, which left Glass bankrupt."

"The concept is about relativity. Go ahead and make fun of Robert Wilson, but he is a master." (Wilson co-wrote *Einstein on the Beach*, and Glass used his stage-design sketches to compose the score. Conceptual art is an easy — and fair — target for parody: *South Park* wrote its own version of *Einstein* for Mr. Hankey in the Christmas Poo episode).

For the aesthete, Cal Performances is the Giants and its staging of *Einstein on the Beach* is the equivalent of it winning the World Series. *Einstein on the Beach* is a complex, expensive, and laborious production, and Cal Performances helped fund its first revival in twenty years with the hope of bringing it to Zellerbach. Berkeley got three precious performances last weekend, the only West Coast leg of the revival's world tour and its first time staged west of the Hudson, for which tickets immediately sold out when they went on sale late last year. Now the production is off to Mexico City and this tour may be the last time audiences will see a staging in which its creators, now all in their seventies, were directly involved.

And so it goes when we humans get our hands on something rare, a supposed masterpiece, a thing we are told to treasure. We mythologize, we dissect, we want to know its secret, like its power can somehow transform us by being near it. But here's the secret about *Einstein on the Beach*: The experience is not about what it brings to you, but more about what you bring to it. As relevant now as it was when it was staged in 1976, but for different reasons, *Einstein on the Beach* withholds information, emotion, and explanation from a culture whose immediate needs are constantly being met. It's only then audience members are forced to look inside themselves for answers.

When he composed *Einstein on the Beach* in 1975, Glass deconstructed the concept of what an opera could be, likely less as a deliberate act of rule-breaking — there are those myths again — and more to suit his and Wilson's sub-narrative, non-linear vision. There is a small orchestra (sadly, not conducted by Glass in the 2012 revival) with synthesizers, woodwinds, a saxophone, a vocal chorus, and a solo violinist, Bay Area-based Jennifer Koh, who is dressed in full costume, makeup, and wig to resemble Einstein. Koh's costume is the only overt reference to Einstein in the entire show.

From the moment the first act opens and one of the primary symbols of the opera, a steam locomotive, enters the stage, it feels like waking up from a lucid dream: recalling a detail, and then letting it tumble back into the subconscious. The imagery continues this way for four more hours: Above the train there's a child standing on a crane, folding and flying paper airplanes into a group of dancing adults who ignore him; the cast is almost equal black artists to white artists (per Wilson's staging); almost every member of the cast is wearing a wristwatch, and clocks feature heavily in the set; a trial takes place, about what we never know, which morphs into a prison; an industrial factory filled with workers turns into a brilliant white light show in which two players vertically and horizontally shift through it in moving rectangular boxes; a bus driver closes the show with a story about lovers on a park bench.

The music is similar to other Glass compositions — hypnotic rhythms built by repeating the same chord, a dramatic and intricate style he developed after studying non-Western forms such as Indian ragas. Later in his career, Glass indulged in more lyrical and romantic orchestral compositions, such as the film score for *The Hours*, but back when he wrote *Einstein on the Beach*, his first of many operas, even adding a solo violinist represented a shift away from the tonal sounds of his previously rigid minimalist work. Thankfully, the pipe organ score of *Einstein on the Beach*, which starts to sound like robots stuck on a broken merry-go-round chanting fragmented dialogue and numbers, contains some relief: the calm duet of "Night Train," the wailing fifteen-minute saxophone solo in "Building," the mezzo-soprano aria sung in coordination with a moving bar of light, the vocal chorus in both "Field" dances, and the climatic finale, "Spaceship."

Einstein on the Beach becomes a test of endurance. There are four acts and the first three are tortuous in their assault of repetitive sound, symbols, and motion, combining Glass' score, Wilson's sets which transform the stage into a stark, mostly black, white, and gray moving painting, and Lucinda Childs' frantic, angular, often paralyzed choreography, which gives the painting life. A single performance from one of these artists would be overwhelming; three is a headache. And they know it, too, all pushing and pounding at once, so insistent to present something seemingly meaningless that the first hour of the performance comes on like a con.

Taking breaks from *Einstein on the Beach* is necessary, and detachment and rejection is all part of the experience. The intermissions are free-form and chosen at will by the audience, which is what the artists intended. About an hour and a half in, I had to leave my seat for the back of the theatre to pace, stretch, and stand while I watched. In the beginning of the third hour, I went to the cafe upstairs, grumbling to a table of strangers how it'd been a long day with no end in sight, and watched the performance being telecast on one of the two TVs.

Eventually, after your brain stops searching for meaning in *Einstein on the Beach*, stops wondering how it connects to Einstein's life, you start to see connections to yourself. The drama — the narrative, if it can be called such — then becomes purely interior, if you're willing to go there. There is something so deeply American in its themes — man's creation of the very science and technology that further disconnects him from mankind — but ultimately *Einstein on the Beach* seeks to tell the best loved and oldest story in America — the search for self. Perhaps it requires five hours to present its abstract exploration of Einstein because it takes that long to beat us into submission. It's only then it becomes obvious. The myth here is not about *Einstein on the Beach* or Einstein the man; the myth is in the mystery, in the personal and individual interpretation of each who experiences it. ●

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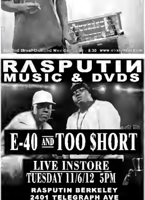
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RECORD LABELS: COOL AS A HOBBY, NOT AS A BUSINESS

Amid established East Bay record labels shutting down, cassette and vinyl label Moon Glyph moves to Oakland

By Lenika Cruz

It's no secret that East Bay record labels have struggled over the past few years. In 2011, Emeryville's Absolutely Kosher closed after thirteen years in the business, and legendary Berkeley punk label Lookout! Records shuttered for good earlier this year. It's the natural ebb and flow of a business that's largely at the mercy of trends, but also a sign that the financial woes of the music industry have no end in sight, even on the local level.

Moon Glyph, a primarily cassette and vinyl label specializing in psychedelia, just moved to the East Bay and is hoping to carve out its niche. The advice from former Lookout! owner Chris Appelgren and Mike Schulman, owner of local indie label Slumberland Records: Manage expectations and don't quit your day job.

The headquarters of Oakland-based Moon Glyph is like most indie labels: an apartment. The label's owner and one-man staff Steve Rosborough extols the virtues of analog formats — cassettes and vinyl — which comprise most of Moon Glyph's releases. If there is one passion driving Rosborough to do Moon Glyph, it is audio fidelity — the label has only released two CDs, ever.

"Honestly, the people who like this stuff, they don't really buy CDs that much," said Rosborough, 27, who just moved to the East Bay last month from Minneapolis. "As technology has [developed], we've gotten used to lower and lower fidelity. Most people think these are dusty tapes that have been played a hundred times, but it has the capacity to sound really good if you do it right."

Originally from Illinois, Rosborough founded Moon Glyph out of college three years ago. A graphic designer by trade, he's responsible for almost all the artwork for the label's 47 releases thus far. The label married all his interests — finding new artists, designing the visuals, and curating a musical aesthetic. "I had pretty high expectations from the get go," Rosborough said. He comes off as confident but not arrogant, humble, but not meek. It's a well-balanced attitude that seems native to that breed of practical people who hold impractical jobs.

While all of Moon Glyph's music falls in the realm of psychedelia, from the "fuzzy garage" of Dead Luke to the experimental soundscapes of San Francisco-based artist FWY!, Rosborough said he wants to keep things fresh. The label is accepting artist demos. "I don't think a label necessarily needs to lean in on a particular style and milk that to death," he said.

Releases by Moon Glyph

Rosborough is experimenting with free digital downloads as a way to introduce the uninitiated to Moon Glyph's artists, and lure them over to buying tapes and vinyl. He just released two-volume compilation *Opal Vol.I & II*, which includes local bands FWY!, Clipd Beaks, and Muscle Drum.

Rosborough insists Moon Glyph hasn't lost him money — only time. He said he spends more than thirty hours a week running the label, but he avoids financial risk by doing things himself when he can and by working freelance graphic design gigs.

Rosborough isn't alone in his efforts. Other local cassette-only labels include Oakland-based Sanity Muffin and Two Thousand Tapes, as well as San Francisco's Beach House. Sanity Muffin owner Billy Sprague also does art for his releases.

Slumberland Records has lasted 22 years, with owner Schulman finding gold along the way signing bands such as The Pains of Being Pure at Heart and Crystal Stilts. Schulman said anyone running a record label needs to have reasonable expectations — that way, he said, they "can have some fun with it and not force things" — and have a day job.

"The label doesn't come anywhere close to making me a living," said Schulman. "I don't know how anyone can sell enough records to make a living, especially in the Bay Area with [what] it costs what it costs to live here. In a way, Slumberland is still my hobby."

Schulman said tough times persist for local labels, adding he wouldn't be surprised if more veteran East Bay labels like Absolutely Kosher and Lookout! close down in the current climate.

"The problems in the music industry are pretty well known," Schulman said. "The pie is getting smaller. People are still consuming music but it's not coming back any way."

Like Schulman, former Lookout! owner Appelgren said the hardest but most crucial part of running a label — beyond the business and promotion aspect — is managing expectations. Lookout! had to end its six-year run after some of its biggest bands, including Green Day and Operation Ivy, left its roster. Still, Appelgren remains optimistic about labels as a passion project.

"I think all these labels just started out being really in love with this music, and if they didn't create a way for it to get out into the world, then maybe nobody would," Appelgren said. ●

Additional reporting by Whitney Phaneuf

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CLOUDY, DUSTY, SPACEY

Three albums soaked in their own distinct sound

Main Attrakionz

Bossalinis & Fooliyones

And to think that just two years ago nobody had ever heard of "cloud rap." *Bossalinis and Fooliyones*, the first honest-to-God album from Oakland's immensely talented, endlessly creative Main Attrakionz, helps complete the genre's — and the group's — movement out of the weed-choked Oakland warehouses where it was born to the alt-rap mainstream — but it also shows us the "cloud" sound can be both a blessing and a curse.

This is a group that's made its name on watery minimalist production values, on slurred-out, organ-sounding, open-ended purpose flows, on an aesthetic that's foggy and fluid and faded (sonically and mentally). The irony here is that Main Attrakionz must be among the hardest-working acts in hip-hop, having released more than a hundred songs in the last year or so, but there's a fine line between loose and lazy, and on *Bossalinis* it can take a couple listens to parse. It's both fitting and significant that the album stretches a full seventy minutes — fitting because this is an act that's firmly committed to volume, to releasing nearly every track it lays down, no matter how half-baked, and significant because it betrays a certain curation problem.

"Love Is Lala" and "Cloud Body" are classic Attrakionz, ambient and absorbent and otherworldly in the way last year's "Perfect Skies" was. "Sex and the City" floats a prominent boast about Squadda B's, ah, natural gifts over a tinkling, spare piano for a giddily immediate effect. But opener "Green on Sight" is warmed-over and unremarkable, and it's not the only misstep on the album.

That's the thing about clouds. They're beautiful, powerful, immersive — but sometimes, when you get close enough, you see that they're really just air. (Young One)

— *Ellen Cushing*

Dusted

Total Dust

Dusted, the latest indie-folk side project from Brian Borcherdt, best known for his lo-fi synth-rock electronic group Holy Fuck, brings in producer Leon Taheny on keyboards and drums. Together they produce an evocative and disconcerting meld of tense rhythms and haunting basslines underscoring breathy, pleading vocals. Dusted's debut album *Total Dust* is an easy listen in ten short songs about the heavy themes of mortality and death. Reminiscent of Chad VanGaalen's *Infiniheart*, *Total Dust* depicts sterile, urban landscapes and the portraits of the searching hearts walking among it.

In "All Comes Down," a fuzzy bass echoes Borcherdt's repeated cry of *When it all it all comes down*, and the result is a resigned and beautiful exhaustion. From there, the album picks up tempo and tone with "(Into the) Atmosphere," which counters a spirited folk lightness with lyrics implying life's inevitable collapse into airborne particles. Ending with the simple and disturbing love song, "There Somehow," Borcherdt promises that *Whatever it takes to claim you as my own I aim to/ tame you somehow.*

Raw, nervous, and minimally constructed, *Total Dust*'s deep melancholy is easy to get lost in and, unfortunately, over far too quickly. And with what Dusted loses in familiarity for those expecting the dance rock of Holy Fuck, it gains in resonant and disturbing listening pleasure. One among his many solo endeavors, Borcherdt's latest offering of lo-fi indie pop proves itself unflinching and memorable, and perhaps worthy of more than a side project. (Polyvinyl Record Co.)

— *Joe Batkin*

Django Django

Django Django

Critics, for lack of a better term, have labeled Django Django's music "psychedelic," but the Scottish quartet mixes a ton of genres and influences — electronic, freak folk, new wave, space rock, and a trace of Arab and Turkish roots music — to achieve its sound. Its self-titled debut album features repetitive beats that chug along like a steam locomotive, with chanted vocals that add melody and harmony. If aliens had built the Egyptian pyramids, Django Django's music would have been their soundtrack. And it'd be one hell of a spaced-out dance party.

The band combines the catchy melodies of The Beta Band, the retro-pop leanings of Super Furry Animals, and the minimal synths of Gang of Four, sped up to the hyper tempos of modern eight-bit electronica. *Django Django* begins with the cinematic "Introduction," a sign that the band aims to present a cohesive album rather than a collection of singles, which sets the *Lawrence of Arabia* tone for a thirteen-track journey to three distinct places: a sunny beach, a remote desert, and cold outer space. On the beachy side, there's the heady "Hail Bop," led by jangly guitars and layered vocals; surf rock ditty "Life's A Beach"; and keyboard-heavy "Storm." The landscape grows expansive in "WOR" and "Skies Over Cairo," which is dominated by thumpy tribal percussion. The repetitive melodies in "Zumm Zumm" and "Silver Rays" resemble a video-game soundtrack — the latter borders on cold and grating. Still, it's a ride worth taking. (Ribbon Music)

— *Whitney Phaneuf*

LOCAL LICKS

BY [illegible]

Blackbird Blackbird

Boracay Planet EP

Blackbird Blackbird (aka Mikey Maramag) truly excels in crafting moody pop songs and his latest EP *Boracay Planet* delivers on four out of five tracks. Maramag's breathy, confessional vocals sound similar to those of Stars, and the music works best when he keeps the synths simple and guitars stripped-down. Only "Tear" sounds left over from 2010's chillwave craze. (Lavish Habits)

Troubled Coast

Awake and Empty

Over the past few years, the East Bay's Troubled Coast has developed a significant following in the suburban indie-punk scene. On its third release, *Awake and Empty*, the band introduces more anthemic guitar melodies, which blend well with its pop-punk sensibilities and angsty lyrics. Despite the grown-up sound, Troubled Coast ultimately creates music for moshing, teenage mall rats. (Pure Noise Records)

New Spell

New Spell

New Spell's debut self-titled album has a low-production, high school jazz band sound that's at first charming, but starts to wear on the ears like a Muzak version of The Doors. Part of the problem stems from the trio's inability to connect its jazz and classical elements to its electronic touches. Hopefully a skilled producer will stumble upon the band, as Leanna Kelly's feminine melancholy lilt could be turned into an excellent vehicle for Cocteau Twins-like dream pop. (self-released)

At The Starry Plough (3101 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley) on Nov 29, 9 p.m. $6, $12

Coffee Shop Dropout

Grounded

As someone who grew up on grunge, I spent my adolescence listening to suburban boys in basement bands imitate Nirvana. If only Richmond's Coffee Shop Dropout could take its grunge revival a little further. The duo steals its chord structures direct from Nirvana, specifically on tracks "In Heat" and "Baggage," and even mews out lyrics like Kurt Cobain. Only "Thread," with its crisp vocals and minimal guitar, shows the band attempting its own sound. (self-released) ●

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CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 1

EAST BAY

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

FRIDAY 2

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

SATURDAY 3

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Kids

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

PICKS

Mr. Kind
It's unclear whether the members of Oakland indie rockers Mr. Kind are old enough to have been aware of Wilco's *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* when it came out in 2002, but they know the album now — so well, in fact, that they're performing it in its entirety. Mr. Kind's upbeat, alt-country sound, as heard on its debut EP *OK*, owes a lot to Wilco, whose fourth album contains some of its best pop songs, including "War on War" and "Jesus, Etc." Guests contributing to Mr Kind's performance at Bottom of the Hill (1233 17th St., San Francisco) on Thursday, Nov. 1, will include past and present members of Elemental indie-pop bands Berkeley's Girl By Bird, Alameda's Finish Ticket and the now-defunct Please Do Not Fight. Opening the show with his first performance as his RNB persona Mangles will be classical guitarist Taylor Brown, followed by folk trio Silver Shiver, which will release its debut EP the same day. 9 p.m., $10. BottomoftheHill.com — *Whitney Phaneuf*

Songs of Irving Berlin
Sundays are meant for reading in bed, having picnics in the park, and listening to well-worn jazz. During his sixty-year career, Irving Berlin composed many of the jazz standards still played today, treasured for their simple melodies and lyrics about everyday life in early- to mid-20th-century America. The Russian-born composer cemented his place in history when he penned "God Bless America," and songs such as "Always" and "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" were jumped into the charts to legends like Patsy Cline and Billie Holiday who evoked their full emotional depth. Solo performers Will Hull, Angharad Jones, Lisa Lindsley, and Larry Smith will make their vocal group debut singing select songs from Berlin's massive catalog on Sunday, Nov. 4, at The Jazzschool (2087 Addison St., Berkeley). 4:30 p.m., $12, $15. Jazzschool.org — *W.J.*

METZ
It's been a while since post-hardcore has sounded as good as METZ's self-titled debut album. After being around for nearly five years, the Toronto trio is finally getting mainstream attention and rising fast, but the band hasn't compromised when it comes to its music (it wrote *METZ* before its label, Sub Pop, entered on to what it was doing). METZ has earned comparisons to The Jesus Lizard, Nirvana, and Drive Like Jehu for its skin-crawling guitar riffs, bone-rattling percussion, and guttural shrieks that make listeners feel like they're being stomped into the floor of a grungy dive bar with a rat infestation. Its heavy, loud, and often fast, but also been said to have a Beatles-like quality for its melody and structure. What's more, METZ is known for insane live shows (according to the band, one fan got so cut out during the opening song of a set that he started running his face into a monitor until he bled). METZ will perform with Tigre High and One Hundred Percent at Bottom of the Hill (1233 17th St., San Francisco) on Monday, Nov. 5. 9 p.m. $10. BottomoftheHill.com — *Lenika Cruz*

Lindsley, Larry Smith
and Angharad Jones.

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Dark Dark Dark w/ Emily Wells and Little Teeth. Bottom of the Hill, 9:30 p.m., $12.
Kemosi East Ingleside Saloon, 9:15 p.m., free
Pomodoro al Bovoso Italian folk music with Shari Mignone. Caffe Trieste, 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., free
Sunny Gorevi Pioneer & Blues, 8 & 11 p.m., $20

Classical & Opera

Ensamble Ballet Folklórico de San Francisco presents Las Posturas de Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo performing "Sin Muñecas" Herbst Theatre. 7:30 p.m., $15-$35
San Francisco Symphony Performs Dia de los Muertos Community Concert Donato Cabrera conducts a concert celebrating Latino culture. Davies Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $10-$60
SF Opera Presents Wagner's Lohengrin starring Brandon Jovanovich, Camilla Nylund, Petra Lang, Gerd Grochowski, Brindley Sigmundsson and Brian Mulligan; conducted by Nicola Luisotti. War Memorial Opera House, 7 p.m., $22-$315
SF Symphony Presents Dia De Los Muertos Community Concert Davies Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $15-$60.

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Joe Mandara Trio Bar jazz. Jazz Ganeset 8-11:30 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Concert of Bovoso w/ Adam Levy of the Honeydogs. Rebel Utah, 8 p.m., $10
Frank Gavin Doane w/ A Lot Like Birds, I the Mighty, Hail the Sun, and The Orphan, the Poet, The Bovoso. 6:30 p.m., $12, $20
Dark Dark Dark Bottom of the Hill, 9:30 p.m., $15
Franco the Buffalo w/ Kevin Gans, Shirts. 9 p.m., $10
Evolution: The Concert Bovoso to Journey The Regency Ballroom, 9 p.m., $25-$27
Matthew Edwards & The Unfortunates Amnesia Music, 2 p.m., free
Mono Hono w/ Sister Crayon and Revolution City. Rockshaw Stop, 9 p.m., $10-$12
Bovoso w/ Nicola Harmond and Fear the Future. Nemonit Tavern, 7:30 p.m., $7
Parlours w/ All The Independents, 8 p.m., $15

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Fred Wesley and the New JB's w/ Clyde Stubblefield, Jabo Starks, Fred Gorvert and Lynne Rivet Band. Reservoir, 9 p.m., $35
Concert the Family Soul Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 p.m., $24-$32

SUNDAY 4

EAST BAY

All Ages

Band Works band recitals, Ashkenaz, 2 p.m., $6

Blues, Folk & Country

Acoustic Unplugged with Ashling, Jupiter, 5 p.m., free
Lucky Trish and the Downs Day Troubadours. The 3 Stars, The Uptown, 9 p.m., $10
New Folklórico Songbook Project Piedmont Piano Company, 4 p.m., $20
Sunday Morning Music with Rev Robin, Caffe Mediterraneum, 10 a.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Brunch Jazz curated by John Schott, Actual Cafe, 5 p.m., free
Earl Klugh Yoshi's Oakland, 6 & 8 p.m., $25, $35
El Bulldo gypsy-inspired piano improvisations, Hoodie Gypsy Café, 12:30 p.m., free
Jazz and Dark Night Dorsey's Locker, 8:30 p.m., free
The Grandbaum Jazz Quartet classic & contemporary jazz, Coffee Mill, 3-6 p.m., free

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C&C

John [illegible] [illegible] Cafe, 5 p.m. free and **[illegible] Trio** [illegible], 6:30-10 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ Love Songs, All You Can Eat, Fast Asleep, and Other Fables 924 Gilman 5 p.m. $8

Noah and the April [illegible] [illegible] Music, 4 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ Bobby Hustle, [illegible] Sound, and DJ Smiley The New Parish, 9 p.m. $15-$20

[illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $26.50, $28.50

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

The Devil Makes Three w/ Jonny Fritz Corndawg, The Fillmore, 9 p.m., $22.50

The [illegible] [illegible] 8 p.m., $5

Toby Gonzales Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m., free

Classical & Opera

[illegible] on piano for Sunday [illegible] Gallery Top of the Mark, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., $49-75 for brunch plus gratuity and tax

SF Performances Presents Jean-Yves Thibaudet Herbst Theatre 1 p.m. $50-$75

SF Symphony Youth Orchestra conducted by Donato Cabrera, Davies Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $12-$45

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Brunch with Future Perfect & rotating guests, $39 [illegible], 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., $39 [illegible]

More Listings Online
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Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Trio Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m. $18

Karl Moore Trio Chaya Brasserie, 8 p.m. free

[illegible] & [illegible] with Andrew Speight, Sam Bevan and Mark Gibson, [illegible], 4:30-6:30 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

The Avenues and [illegible] w/ Overwhelming Colorfast, Field Trip, The Amazing [illegible], [illegible] Mission, [illegible], DJ [illegible] G, and [illegible] Battles of the Hill, 3 p.m. $10

[illegible] w/ a TBA guest, Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m. $10

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], the Cover, and Rotten Funeral, DNA Lounge 8 p.m. $10-$13

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] 1 p.m. $5

[illegible] w/ The Sons and Spanish Caravans, [illegible] Tavern, 9 p.m. $6

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and the [illegible] and [illegible] with The [illegible] Lights, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m. $6

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ [illegible], MC Pru and Andy Hilton, The [illegible], 2:30 p.m., $20-$35

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

SFJazz: [illegible] [illegible], Palace of Fine Arts, 7 p.m., $25-$65

MONDAY 5

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Songwriters Competition Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse 7:30 p.m.

VENUE DIRECTORY

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Amoeba Music 2455 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-1125
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Art House Gallery & Cultural Center 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-472-3170.
Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-525-5054.
The Baltic 135 Park Pl., Point Richmond, 510-234-1400
[illegible] 511 17th St., Oakland, 510-444-2286.
[illegible] Center for the Arts 1001 [illegible] St., Alameda, 510-523-0954
The Bistro 1001 B St., Hayward, 510-886-8525
Cafe Van Kleef 1621 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-763-7711
Caffe Trieste 2500 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5198.
Chester's Bayview Cafe 1508 Walnut St. #B, Berkeley, 510-849-9995.
Club 1220 1220 Pine St., Walnut Creek, 925-938-4550.
Club 21 2111 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-268-9425
Club Anton 428 3rd St., Oakland, 510-463-0[illegible]
[illegible] 3303 [illegible] Ave., [illegible], 510-665-4724
[illegible] 5422 College Ave., Oakland, 510-658-2080
Dan's Irish Sports Bar 1524 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-933-1331.
[illegible] 341 14th St., [illegible], 510-[illegible]
[illegible] 2305 [illegible] Ave., Alameda, 415-285-8285
Easy Lounge 3255 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-338-4591.
Eli's Mile High Club 3629 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, 510-984-0086.
[illegible] 19 [illegible] Ave., Oakland, 510-832-4440
Everett & Jones Barbeque 126 Broadway, Oakland, 510-663-2350
First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, 510-848-3696.
First Presbyterian Church 2619 Broadway, Oakland, 510-444-3555
Fox Theater 1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 800-745-3000
[illegible] 111 W. [illegible] Rd., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]
Freight & Salvage 2020 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-644-2020
Hertz Hall UC Berkeley Campus (Bancroft Way at College Ave.), Berkeley, 510-642-0212
High Street Station 1301 High St., Alameda, 510-995-8040
[illegible] 1436 [illegible] St., Alameda, 510-[illegible]
Jazzschool 2087 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-845-5373
Jewish Community Center of the East Bay 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237
John Patrick's 2900 Park St., Alameda, 510-522-5[illegible]
Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden 1223 Park St., Alameda, 510-[illegible]
Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-8277
Kimball's Carnival 522 2nd St., Oakland, 510-444-6104
Kingman's Lucky Lounge 3332 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-5464.
Kingman's Ivy Room 858 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-5888.
La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568
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Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-893-2484
[illegible] 408 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-464-3643.
The Layover 1517 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-834-1511
Lost Weekend Lounge 2320 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-523-4700.
[illegible] 3411 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-531-3411
Luka's Taproom & Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4677
[illegible] Sports Bar & Grill 2720 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-256-7055
[illegible] 341 13th St., Oakland, 510-839-6388
Mills College 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-430-2355.
Missouri Lounge 2600 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2080.
[illegible] 1408 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-763-0700
The New Parish 579 18th St., Oakland, 510-444-7474
Nomad Cafe 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-595-5344.
Oakland City Center 400 12th St., Oakland, 510-238-[illegible]
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[illegible] [illegible] Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]
Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-465-6400
Piedmont Center for the Arts 801 Magnolia Ave., Piedmont, PiedmontCenterfortheArts.org
Piedmont Piano Company 1728 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, 510-547-8188.
Quinn's Lighthouse 1951 Embarcadero Cove, Oakland, 510-536-2050.
Radio 435 13th St., Oakland, 510-451-2889
Rhythmix Cultural Works 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda, 510-865-5060
[illegible] 1645 San Pablo Ave., Oakland
[illegible] 3513 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-284-4317
[illegible] 1700 Clement Ave., Alameda, 510-331-9020
Ruby Room 132 14th St., Oakland, 510-444-7224
[illegible] Club 42011 Boscell Rd., Fremont, 510-979-0477
[illegible] 2411 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, 925-831-3111
Shoreline Amphitheatre One Amphitheatre Pkwy., Mountain View, 650-967-3000
[illegible] 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-[illegible]
[illegible] 2500 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-[illegible]
St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-848-5107
St. John's Presbyterian Church 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6830
Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082.
Stork Club 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-444-6174
[illegible] 1510 8th St., Oakland
Subterranean Art House 2179 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-[illegible]
[illegible] 360 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-553-[illegible]
Uptown 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8100
Vinnie's Bar & Grill 2045 Mt. Diablo St., Concord, 925-685-9515
Wente Vineyards Amphitheater 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925-456-2450
[illegible] UC Berkeley, Berkeley, 510-642-[illegible]
White Horse Inn 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3820
Yoshi's 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland, 510-238-9200.
Zellerbach Hall UC Berkeley, Berkeley, 510-642-9988

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Jane Bunnett & Hilario Duran w/ Candido Camero. Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m. $38

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Amnesia, 9 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] benefit for Bay Area kids in need w/ [illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 6:30 p.m., $55-$100

Rock & Pop

A-1 w/ [illegible] 8 p.m., $18-$20

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 p.m., $10, $12

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] Cafe du Nord, 8:30 p.m., $10

[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Fillmore, 8 p.m., $25

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Marlowe Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $40

[illegible] w/ Tiger High and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $10, $12

Sea Wolf w/ Hey Marseilles, The [illegible] and The Amps, The Independent, 8 p.m., $15

TUESDAY 6

EAST BAY

All Ages

[illegible] Sebastian, 7:30 p.m., $5

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Peter's Nighthouse, 7:30-9 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] dinner jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] Fox Theater, 8 p.m., $57.50

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Stork Club, 9 p.m., $5

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 8 p.m., $TBA

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] Jupiter, 9 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 p.m., $6

The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band w/ the Gypsy Moonlight Band and [illegible] Blue Eyes, Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $16

Classical & Opera

SF Opera Presents Wagner's Lohengrin starring Brandon Jovanovich, Camilla Nylund, Petra Lang, [illegible] Kristinn Sigmundsson and Brian Mulligan; conducted by [illegible] War Memorial Opera House, 7 p.m., $[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 8:30 p.m., $7

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 7 p.m., $8

[illegible] Park Chalet Brewery, 6:30 p.m., free

[illegible] Boom Boom Room, 9 p.m., $5

[illegible] Amnesia, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] [illegible] Gallery, 7:30 p.m., $10

WEDNESDAY 7

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $21.50, $22.50

[illegible] Cafe Van Kleef, 8:30 p.m., $TBA

[illegible] Brothers Albatross Pub, 8 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible] Roadhouse, 8:30 p.m., free

[illegible] [illegible] Bar & Grill, 7:30 p.m., free

[illegible] dinner jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 p.m., $5

The Michael Schrader Group The New Parish, 8 p.m., $25-$75

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Caribbean Night with Reggae [illegible] Lucky's Locker, 8 p.m., free

[illegible] Zellerbach Hall, 8 p.m., $28-$75

[illegible] with a Calgary [illegible] dance lesson with [illegible] at 8:30 p.m., Ashkenaz, 9 p.m., $10, $13

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] w/ Austin De Lone, [illegible] 8 p.m., $10

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] with [illegible] Jazz Session, Amnesia, 7 p.m., free

Wednesday Jazz Night Amnesia, 7 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $47.50-$65

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $8-$10

The [illegible] w/ The [illegible] Thee Parkside, 8:30 p.m., $6

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., $15

[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Independent, 8 p.m., $15

[illegible] w/ Luther, Slim's, 8 p.m., $15

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Rickshaw Stop, 8 p.m., $17

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] Boom Boom Room, 9 p.m., $5

[illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $17

Submissions for music listings should be emailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is fourteen days prior to the event date.

WEDNESDAY 10/31
Halloween Facepainting by Bri Entertainment
3pm to 5pm (FREE)
HALLOWEEN DANCE PARTY
BINDERS FULL OF WOMEN
WITH DJ MIKE [illegible]

FIRST FRIDAY 11/2
COFFEE CUPPING BY FOUR BARREL COFFEE
NOON TO 1PM (FREE)
OAKLAND ART MURMUR
TWO LIVE BANDS
BRASS MENAZERI & GO VAN GOGH
new art by Christopher Newhard
7pm to Midnight (FREE)

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[illegible] no cover

THURSDAY NOV. 1
SELECTOR: TOPH ONE & MANNY BLACK 9PM
[illegible]
facebook.com/tophone
myspace.com/mannyblack

FRIDAY NOV. 2
LES GWAN JUPONS 9PM
[illegible]
lesgwanjupons.bandcamp.com

SATURDAY NOV. 3
BRYAN BOWMAN TRIO 9PM
[illegible]
Bryanbowman.com

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SAN FRANCISCO
Wed, Oct 31 [illegible]
NGUYEN LE feat. Charged Particles with special guest VANESSA VO
Thu-Fri Nov 1-2
A SOULFUL NIGHT OF KEYS w/ [illegible]
Thu, Nov 1
[illegible] In The Lounge 18+
KOOL KEITH & BLOWFLY UK
Sat, Nov 3 [illegible]
KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL
Sat, Nov 3
[illegible] In The Lounge 18+
ILL GATES + STEPHAN JACOBS + JAYFAY
Sun, Nov 4 [illegible]
DWIGHT TRIBLE
Thu-Sat, Nov 8-10
PONCHO SANCHEZ & HIS LATIN JAZZ BAND
Sun, Nov 11
BARBARY COAST BURLESQUE
[illegible] City
Mon, Nov 12 [illegible]
SF ALL STAR BIG BAND
[illegible] Anniversary [illegible]
Thu, Nov 15 [illegible]
JUICE NEWTON ACOUSTIC TRIO
1330 FILLMORE ST · SAN FRANCISCO [illegible]

oakland
Wed-Thu, Oct 31-Nov 1
DEL THE FUNKY HOMOSAPIEN
Fri-Sun, Nov 2-4
EARL KLUGH
Mon, Nov 5
JANE BUNNETT & HILARIO DURAN
w/ conga master Candido Camero
Thu, Nov 8 [illegible]
ALVON JOHNSON
Fri-Sun, Nov 9-11
DAVID SANBORN
Mon, Nov 12 [illegible]
TRIO GARUFA
Tue-Wed, Nov 13-14
AVERAGE WHITE BAND
Thu-Sun, Nov 15-18
GOAPELE
Mon, Nov 19
DAVE MASON UNPLUGGED
Fri-Sat, Nov 23-24
CANADIAN BRASS
Tue, Nov 27 [illegible]
LARRY GRAHAM & Graham Central Station
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WED 10/31 9:00 pm $12 — GAMELAN X, EL RADIO FANTASTIQUE, BUDVELMAN
THU 11/1 9:00 pm $12 — GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT: STU ALLEN & MARS HOTEL
FRI 11/2 9:00 pm $16 $13 adv — REGGAE/POP/HIP-HOP: AER + YONAS
SAT 11/3 9:30 pm $13 $10 students — AFRICAN: BABA KEN & WEST AFRICAN HIGHLIFE BAND

8 pm African dance lesson
WED 11/7 8:30 pm $12 $10 students — CAJUN: GROS BRDUILLARD (Foghorn Stringband with Erik & Suzy Thompson). 8 pm Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson
THU 11/8 9:00 pm $25 $20 advance — PSYCHEDELIC ROCK: DAVID NELSON BAND

FRI 11/9 9:00 pm $16 $12 students — AFRO-BRAZILIAN-FUNK: BAMBADA + AFROFUNK EXPERIENCE
SAT 11/10 9:30 pm $16 $12 students — AFRICAN: BONGO LOVE, "Afro-acoustica" music direct from Zimbabwe

HOLIDAY BAZAAR Sun. Dec. 2
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THU 11/1 8:30PM — AMERICAN MUSIC CLUB'S MARK EITZEL, MURALISMO
SAT 11/3 8:30PM — JAY TRAINER BAND, FAT ONE, FLEETING TRANCE
THU 11/8 8:00PM — FRESH JUICE PARTY, SUPER NATURAL
FRI 11/9 8:30PM — HELLA FUN TRIBUTE NIGHT presents PRIVATE IDAHO (B-52'S TRIBUTE), CHRONIC TOWN (R.E.M. TRIBUTE)
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First Fridays Art Walk 6-8PM
DJs SPAIR & MERE — hip hop, dancehall, club cuts
SAT 10PM $7/$5 b4 11 — Succeed
DJs JAMO & MARCELLA — hip-hop, reggae, r&b
SUN 9PM POLYGENRIC FREE
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DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 1

EAST BAY

Body Language w/ Lila [illegible] and Gun-[illegible] spinning '80s and '90s funk, pop, R&B and hip-hop, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Club Fever w/ Boombox Sound spinning reggae & dancehall, Shashamane Restaurant, 10 p.m., free
Delicious Thursdays Radio, 10 p.m., free
DJ Adel P spinning eclectic ear candy, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free
DJ Trick spinning lounge, [illegible] Lounge, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free
Club Life The Layover, 10 p.m., free
Riff Raff indie pop, mash-ups, new wave, Radio, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free
Body Dub w/ DJ P-Spurge and M Wiki, The Layover, 9-11 p.m., free
Tasty [illegible] night w/ DJ [illegible] eclectic spinning hip-hop & R&B, Club 21, [illegible]
Temple w/ DJ Mat-[illegible] Baker spinning global house [illegible], White Horse Inn, 10 p.m.-midnight, free
Elect Wave [illegible] play dance music across genres, Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Uplift Thursdays w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning roots reggae and dancehall, Continental Club, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., $5
We Got the Beat featuring DJ Dance spinning '80s [illegible], Forbidden Island, 9 p.m., free
Boom Boom Sessions featuring [illegible] Carlos Mena and [illegible], Bench and Bar, 9 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

Caspa w/ [illegible] and DJ [illegible], Mezzanine, 9 p.m., $27
[illegible] w/ [illegible], The TRANS, and [illegible], Rickshaw Stop, 8 p.m., $7-$10
The Boat House [illegible] spinning [illegible], Judgement Day, and [illegible] Mission Fusion and guest MC [illegible], Public Works, 9 p.m., $14

FRIDAY 2

EAST BAY

Club 21 [illegible] spinning Latin music, Club 21, 9 p.m., $8-$15
DJ Raft spinning Bay [illegible], and hip-hop, White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., free
DJ Night DJs spinning fantastic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] the Vinyl Aficionado, The Layover, 10 p.m., free
Friday Nite [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible], 10 p.m., $5
Happy Hours w/ DJ Golden Giant spinning punk, rock, [illegible] & [illegible], the Missouri Lounge, 6-10 p.m., free
Knife Party with Tommy Trash, Kill the Noise, Zane Lowe, and Bauuer, Fox Theater, 7 p.m., $39.50
Latin Explosion DJ [illegible] spins cumbia, salsa, merengue, banda, Spanish pop & [illegible], Bench and Bar, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., $6-$15
Mighty [illegible] DJs [illegible] and [illegible] spin reggae, dancehall, and hip-hop, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 p.m., $5 before 11 p.m., $10 after
Old School hip-hop and funk, Radio, 9 p.m., free
Oldies Night w/ DJ [illegible] spinning reggae, [illegible], salsa, & R&B, Island Paradise Club, 10 p.m., ladies free before [illegible] p.m.
Polygenric DJs [illegible], DonGnapo, and Maximaal host a multi-genre exploration of musical movement, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Retro-[illegible] classic [illegible] pop night, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Sultry Fridays DJ [illegible] & [illegible] spin R&B & soul, [illegible] Carnival, 9 p.m., $5
Vybz Int'l w/ [illegible] spinning roots, reggae, dancehall, & [illegible], Shashamane Restaurant, 10 p.m., $5
World Music Fridays featuring DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible], banda, salsa, merengue, [illegible], reggae, bhangra, Arabic music, & more, Conga Lounge, 11 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO

Anti-Halloween w/ [illegible], DJ [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible] Cloud, [illegible] Lounge, 9 p.m., $75
Low End Theory SF w/ [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible], Mezzanine, 10 p.m., $20
Viva La Vida w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Mighty, 10 p.m., free before 10 p.m., $5 after

More Listings Online
Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

SATURDAY 3

EAST BAY

AD Productions & [illegible] DJs spinning R&B & hip-hop, Fauns, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning hip-hop & R&B, Bench and Bar, 9 p.m., $5 before 11 p.m.
DJ Night DJs spinning fantastic pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop, Kip's Restaurant, 9:30 p.m., free
[illegible] DJ [illegible] spins classic country, bluegrass, alt-country, honky-tonk, blues, and more, The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m., free
La Onda Loca Latin dance night w/ DJs spinning salsa, merengue, & banda, plus hot go-go dancers, Club 21, 9 p.m., $8-$10
Magic [illegible] DJ [illegible] & guests host genre-surfing extravaganza, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Reggae Night Conga Lounge, 10 p.m., free
Slope in the Night The New Parish, 9 p.m., $5
Missouri Saturdays rotating DJs spin [illegible], hip-hop, neo-soul, and world flavors, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 p.m., $5 before 11 p.m., $10 after
Thump w/ DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] funk, house, and soul, Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., $5
Vapor w/ DJs [illegible] and [illegible], White Horse Inn, 9 p.m., $5

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] & [illegible] w/ DJs, Candy and other DJs, [illegible] Lounge, 9 p.m., $20-$25
[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], DJ [illegible], DJ Wayfarer, and DJ [illegible] Love, Bimbo's & [illegible] Music Hall, 9:30 p.m., $7-$12

SUNDAY 4

EAST BAY

The Break w/ Oakland natives Kev Choice and DJ [illegible], [illegible] Bar and Lounge, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m., free
DJ Ready Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Post-Antique Fair Beer Lounge featuring DJ [illegible] spinning rock 'n' roll and more, Forbidden Island, 3 p.m., free
Soul Sundays w/ The Workshop Tribe featuring [illegible], Paris Love, [illegible] Gonzales, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], and Adrian, [illegible] Rouge, 2-9 p.m., free
Uptown Pan + Ska Sundays DJs spin ska, rocksteady, & roots reggae, The Ruby Room Club, 7 p.m., free

MONDAY 5

EAST BAY

Caribbean Nights w/ DJs Sarg and Lalo Brown spinning world, reggae, Latin, and hip-hop, Somar Bar & Lounge, 10 p.m., free
Soul Selector w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] Vicente, 9 p.m., free
Three-Day students DJ [illegible] spins [illegible], Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Underground Lounge psychic '60s & piano '70s music, Radio, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free

TUESDAY 6

EAST BAY

DJ Wholly spinning punk, East Weekend Lounge, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free
Funky Direction w/ DJ [illegible] spinning funk, reggae, afrobeat, dancehall, balkan beat, dirty south, grime, '90s hip-hop, salsa, and more, The Layover, 10 p.m., free
Soul Fyah DJ [illegible] and rotating guests spinning reggae, dancehall, and African rhythms, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 p.m., free
Stay Punk! w/ DJ [illegible] spinning indie punk, hardcore, & metal, The Missouri Lounge, 10 p.m., free

PICK

Knife Party

Hard Summer never used fear its downtown LA music festivals that catered to up-and-coming electronic DJs and veteran hip-hop acts. If fans of the concert brand were worried when Live Nation purchased it earlier this year, the Haunted House Tour should offer some reassurance. Australian producer duo Knife Party will headline the tour, bringing on the decks one of the more diverse sounds in electro/dubstep. Knife Party has been making bass beats for a decade now, previously as members of the electronic rock band Pendulum. The guys first met playing in a metal band, which can be heard in the way they produce sounds with frayed edges — never sloppy but chaotic and dark. The duo incorporates the bass drops and wobbles American dubstep fans crave without making them the focal point of the entire track, while steady, hard electro keeps it danceable. Knife Party plays with Tommy Trash, Kill the Noise, Zane Lowe, and Bauuer at The Fox Theater (1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland) on Friday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m., $39.50. TheFoxOakland.com — *Whitney Phaneuf*

SAVAGE LOVE

BIG BALLS

Plus friends with benefits.

By Dan Savage

So I was innocently browsing the personal ads on Craigslist and saw one from a dude who was looking to try "saline balls" for the first time. Having no idea what this was, I Googled it. Even worse, I Google-imaged it. I pride myself on being unshockable, but I was completely and utterly mortified at what I saw. With that said, my copious internet searching failed to yield the answers to the basic/most important questions regarding saline balls: (1) What is the procedure/process for salining one's balls? (2) What about it turns on the salinee/salineer? (3) How long does the effect last? (4) Can it be (god forbid) irreversible?

Completely Utterly Mortified

"The technical name for what CUM is asking about is 'scrotal infusion,'" said Dart, a leatherman, BDSM/kink educator, and host of the *Dart's Domain* podcast. "It's a type of body modification play where the scrotum is infused with approximately 500 milliliters to one liter of saline solution via an IV/cannula drip, which results in the balls appearing to have enlarged to the size of a pair of grapefruits."

Saline, of course, is simply salt water, and sterile saline solutions are administered intravenously to dehydrated patients so that they don't, you know, die. But some people—like the guys your Craigslist friend was seeking out—engage in recreational saline play. But they're not putting saline in their balls, CUM, they're putting saline in their ball sacks.

"The skin of the sack has a great deal of elasticity and can safely stretch to this large size without incurring damage," said Dart. Balls, of course, are not noted for their elasticity, and they can burst.

"While this is a more extreme form of kink play, if done under sterile conditions with hospital-grade materials, it can be accomplished with a minimal risk," said Dart. "No one should experiment with scrotal inflation without some experienced guidance, and no one should do it alone. Some of the risks that can happen include local infection and cellulitis, which can occur from a lack of sterility. There can also be dangerous problems if any air was present in the tubing of the IV during the infusion. But again, if proper precautions are taken, these risks can be avoided."

The inflation process takes about an hour, the effect lasts for a day or two, and the sack gradually returns to normal size as the saline is absorbed into the body. So the process is always reversible—so long as you're inflating your sack with saline and not, say, silicone, Spackle, or packing peanuts. Your sack may be a little looser afterward, but you're not going to be stuck with a giant sack forever.

As for why this is a turn-on, well, turn-ons are highly subjective.

"The turn-on answer varies from person to person," said Dart. "For some, there is a certain rush from temporarily modifying a part of their body to a monstrous size. Others have 'medical play' fantasies. In a power exchange setting between a dominant and a submissive, the dom may get off on altering a part of the sub's body against the sub's will, while the sub may get turned on by the humiliation aspect. It's a wide spectrum. As I say, it's not for everyone. But many, including myself, have engaged in it safely and had a pretty fun time doing it."

Anyone who wants to see a pair of grapefruit-size "saline balls" in action should go here: TinyURL.com/salineballs. Anyone who wants to find Dart's blog, podcast, and videos should go here: DartsDomain.com.

I have a problem with a guy I like and his porn habits. I know you've answered a lot of questions about porn, but I don't think you've answered one like mine. The problem is I used to be his porn. I work part-time as a cam girl. He was one of my regular customers. I came to like him as a human being, and he seemed to feel the same about me. This last summer, we actually got a chance to meet in person. It was fucking amazing! Since then, we've continued playing online, although for free now because it feels unethical to charge someone who I really like. We've also tossed around the idea of another visit. So here's the problem: He's still paying other cam girls, and it makes me upset. I don't mind that he looks at porn, Dan. I don't even mind that he pays for live interactive porn. There are plenty of times when he's horny but I'm asleep (we live in different time zones) or I'm at my other job, and I don't care what he does then. The thing is, I feel I should be the one he plays with when we're both awake and online at the same time. But just as often, when we are both awake and online, he's busy with other cam girls. It makes me feel ignored and neglected.

Am I overreacting? Should I ask to be prioritized over porn? And how can I bring up this subject? I don't want to tell him that he can't jerk off or insist that I have to be at the center of everything he thinks about sexually, but feeling constantly sidelined isn't okay either. And frankly, it makes me feel like a chump for not charging him anymore.

Clever Acronym Missing

Monitoring this guy's porn habits seems like a waste of time and emotional energy, CAM, considering that he's not your boyfriend, you've only met in person on one occasion, you don't live in the same time zone, and a second meeting is just an idea that's being "tossed around." You're not in a relationship with him, and, really, would you wanna be? I'm pro-porn and I'm pro-porn-cam girls, but a guy who invests the amount of time, money, and emotional energy in porn that Mr. Not Your Boyfriend does, well, he hardly seems like decent relationship material.

But you've got nothing to lose—literally nothing—so go ahead and ask him to prioritize you over porn, and to prioritize the free porn you're offering him over the porn he's still paying for, and see what he says. If you don't like what you hear, CAM, if he makes it clear that he doesn't feel about you the same way that you feel about him, then you should definitely start charging him again. ●

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at TheStranger.com/savage

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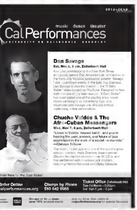

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Dan Savage
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A regular contributor to the *New York Times* and public radio's *This American Life*, and author of the frank and hilarious syndicated column "Savage Love" (published weekly in the East Bay Express), Dan Savage is also the creator of the "It Gets Better" video project on YouTube. Designed to help curb the rate of gay teen suicide, "It Gets Better" has been called one of the country's top social media campaigns by *Advertising Age*, and *Mashable* calls Savage one of today's most captivating online personalities.

Chucho Valdés & The Afro-Cuban Messengers
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Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 468776
[illegible] **Fleur de Sale** [illegible]
Fleur de Sale
10/10, 10/17 10/24, 10/31/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470203
[illegible] **Meridian Method** [illegible]
Meridian Method
10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470301
[illegible]
11/14, 10/17 10/24, 10/31/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470310
[illegible]
10/10 10/17 10/24, 10/31/2012

Business Business Name Statement
File # 470862
[illegible] **Vital Construction** [illegible]
Vital Construction
10/17 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/2012

Business Business Name Statement
File # 470882
[illegible]
10/31 11/7, 11/14, 11/21/2012

Business Business Name Statement
File # 470622
[illegible] **G.D.O.A.** [illegible]
G.D.O.A.
10/10 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470585
[illegible]
10/24, 10/31, 11/7 11/14/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470128
[illegible]
10/31, 11/7 11/14, 11/21/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470790
[illegible]
10/24, 10/31, 11/7 11/14/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 470826
[illegible] **DnP Bass** [illegible]
DnP Bass
10/24, 10/31, 11/7 11/14/2012

Business Business Name Statement
File # 470906
[illegible] **Bay Area Voice Talent** [illegible]
Bay Area Voice Talent
10/31, 11/7 11/14, 11/21/2012

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 471000
[illegible]
11/24 10/31, 11/7, 11/14/2012

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG12649779
[illegible]
10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7/2012

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG12650036
[illegible]
10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21/2012

REAL ESTATE

ALL AREAS ROOMMATES.COM [illegible] **http://www.Roommates.com** (AAN CAN)

Cottage Inn At Lake Tahoe
[illegible]

EMPLOYMENT

Business Sr Business Sys. [illegible]

Office Greeter
[illegible]

ACTORS/MOVIE EXTRAS
[illegible] (AAN CAN)

Office Support Alameda at Business County
[illegible]

Help Wanted!
[illegible] (AAN CAN)

Help Wanted!!! [illegible] (AAN CAN)

$$$HELP WANTED$$$ [illegible] (AAN CAN)

Money 4 All [illegible]

[illegible]

SERVICES

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? [illegible]

Gwenny's Carpet Cleaner [illegible]

CHANGE Your CABLE BILL! [illegible] (AAN CAN)

The Nia Center
[illegible]

CASH FOR CARS [illegible] (AAN CAN)

Deborah's Home Repairs
[illegible]

Having a Baby?
[illegible]

Certification Gardener
[illegible]

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Title Order No. 7742-450365 Trustee Sale No. 2012-1400 Reference No. BR-1DG 8000-01 APN No. 049-1537-012 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER A NOTICE OF A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT AND CLAIM OF LIEN YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT DATED 10/4/2011. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that on 11/21/2012 at 12:00 PM S.B.S. LIEN SERVICES As the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Notice of Delinquent Assessment, recorded on November 7, 2011 as Document No. 2011340056 Book Page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, The original owner: BERNARD ISRAEL The purported new owner: BERNARD ISRAEL WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a State or National bank, a check drawn by a state of federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state.) At the Fallon St emergency exit to the Alameda County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon St. Oakland, CA. All right, title and interest under Notice of Delinquent Assessment in the property situated in said County, as more fully described on the above referenced assessment lien. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 6400 CHRISTIE AVE #1304 EMERYVILLE, CA 94608 The undersigned trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment, with interest thereon, as provided in said notice, advances, if any, estimated fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee, to-wit: $19,993.11 accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The claimant, BRIDGEWATER OWNERS ASSOCIATION under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call FOR SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (714)573-1965 or LOG ONTO or visit this Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com using the file number assigned to this case 2012-1400. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. THE PROPERTY IS BEING SOLD SUBJECT TO THE NINETY DAY RIGHT OF REDEMPTION CONTAINED IN CIVIL CODE SECTION 1367.4(c)(4). PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. FOR SALES INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (714)573-1965 or LOG ONTO www.priorityposting.com Date: 10/18/2012 S.B.S. Lien Services, 31194 La Baya Drive, Suite 106 Westlake Village, CA 91362 Annette Young, Trustee Sale Officer WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. P994494 10/31, 11/7, 11/14/2012

Trustee Sale No. 12-11028 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT DATED 04-25-2012. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 11-14-2012 at 12:00 PM, ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES (Trustee) under and pursuant to Notice of Delinquent Assessment, recorded 04-27-2012 as Instrument 2012137789 Book Page of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of ALAMEDA County, CA, property owned by: BELINDA BUCHANAN AS TRUSTEE OF THE BELINDA BUCHANAN LIVING TRUST, U/A DATED JUNE 28, 2011 WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b) (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States) at: THE FALLON ST EMERGENCY EXIT TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON STREET OAKLAND, CA all right, title and interest under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment in the property situated in said County, describing the land therein: A.P.N.: 049-1520-367 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 4 COMMODORE DRIVE #447 EMERYVILLE, CA 94608 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment, with interest thereon, as provided in said notice, advances, if any, estimated fees, charges, and expenses of the Trustee. The estimated total amount of the unpaid balance at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is $8,343.18. PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION. The claimant, WATERGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-573-1965 or visit this Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com for information using the file number assigned to this case 12-11028. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. DATE: October 07, 2012 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES NICOLE THORNSBERRY, Authorized Signature FOR SALES INFORMATION CALL: (714) 573-1965 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES 990 RESERVE DRIVE, SUITE 208 ROSEVILLE, CA 95678 (877) 282-4999 P996803 10/24, 10/31, 11/07/2012

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 12-02053-3 Loan No. 360031908 APN 049-1520-193 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED February 8, 2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On November 13, 2012, at 12:30 PM, at the Fallon Street entrance to the County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA, FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded on February 13, 2007, as Instrument No. 2007068850 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, CA, executed by: JANICE R. SCHUPLINSKY, A MARRIED WOMAN AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, as Trustor, in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, NA, as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 3 CAPTAIN DR #302, EMERYVILLE, CA 94608-1716 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining unpaid balance of the obligations secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust (together with any modifications thereto). NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714.730.2727 or visit this Internet Web site www.lpsasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 12-02053-3. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be $353,663.15 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the property receiver, if applicable. DATE: October 17, 2012 FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, TRUSTEE 135 Main Street, Suite 1900 San Francisco, CA 94105 415-247-2450 Stephanie [illegible], Authorized Signature SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.lpsasap.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 714.730.2727 A-4314944 10/17/2012, 10/24/2012, 10/31/2012

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 9551-0658 TSG Order No. 120206766-CA-LMI A.P.N.: 049-1476-061 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 07/25/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NBS Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded 08/02/2006 as Document No. 2006295908, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, executed by: MICHAEL MACHADO, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. Sale Date and Time: 11/09/2012 at 12:30 PM Sale Location: M-F @ 12:30 PM At the Fallon Street entrance to the County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 3229 MAGNOLIA ST #20, EMERYVILLE, CA 94608-4146 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: $411,977.01 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714)730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site, https://www.lpsasap.com/, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 9551-0658. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The Declaration pursuant to California Civil Code, Section 2923.5 was fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded on 06/26/2012 NBS Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 800-766-7751 For Trustee Sale Information Log On To: https://www.lpsasap.com/ or Call: (714)730-2727. NBS Default Services, LLC, Gaby [illegible] "We are attempting to collect a debt, and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose." A-4314592 10/17/2012, 10/24/2012, 10/31/2012

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[illegible] Diablo Blvd.
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925-[illegible]

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Berkeley, CA 94705
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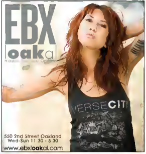
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T.S. No. 12-1679-55 Loan No. 1008119099 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/15/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: YUH TSAI FENG, AN UNMARRIED MAN Duly Appointed Trustee: The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation Recorded 07/06/2006 as Instrument No. 2006257637 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, Date of Sale: 11/15/2012 at 09:00 AM Place of Sale: 3rd floor Lodge/Banquet Room, Scottish Rite Center, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA 94612 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: $310,472.48, estimated Street Address or other common designation of real property: 6363 CHRISTIE AVENUE UNIT 2315 EMERYVILLE, CA A.P.N.: 049-1531-447 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (800) 280-2832 or visit this Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 12-1679-55. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: 10/15/2012 The Wolf Firm, A Law Corporation 2955 Main Street, 2nd Floor Irvine, California 92614 Foreclosure Department (949) 720-9200 Sale Information Only: (800) 280-2832 Auction.com Frank Escalera, Team Lead P993774 10/24, 10/31, 11/07/2012

Title Order No. 6659144 Our File No. 12-012470 Account No. 11-12163 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 11/15/2012 at 12:00PM, A.S.A.P. COLLECTION SERVICES, as the duly appointed Trustee pursuant to Notice of Delinquent Assessment filed by ANDANTE OWNERS ASSOCIATION, Recorded on 1/30/2012 as Instrument No. 2012028497 of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, property owned by: CHRISTOPHER YEN WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, business in this state): At: AT THE FALLON ST EMERGENCY EXIT TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON ST, OAKLAND, CA all right, title and interest under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment in the property situated in said County, describing the land therein: See Grant Deed recorded 06/30/2011 DOC# 2011184934 Assessors Parcel Number: 49-1549-020 Said Sale shall be subject to a 90 day right of redemption period per the requirements of the California Civil Code section 1367.4(c)(4) The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1121 40TH ST APT 1406, EMERYVILLE, CA 94608-3753 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment, with interest thereon, as provided in said notice, advances, if any, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee, to-wit: $11,532.50 Estimated Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The claimant under said Notice of Delinquent Assessment heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (209) 544-9558 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.Priorityposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 12-012470. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For Sale information, please contact (714) 573-1965 or go to www.priorityposting.com Date: 10/8/2012 Cimarron Trustee Services 719 14th Street Modesto, CA 95354 (209) 544-9035 Cathey L. Latner, Vice President P991977 10/17, 10/24, 10/31/2012

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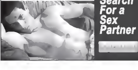
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